



NARUTO

SHONEN JUMP MANGA

Story & Art by

Masashi Kishimoto volume

15



岸本 齊史

I'm starting to run out of things to write for this "Author's Comments" section...

Since going to the movies is practically my only hobby, I guess I'll write about movies... Hmm. Some movies I've seen recently are...

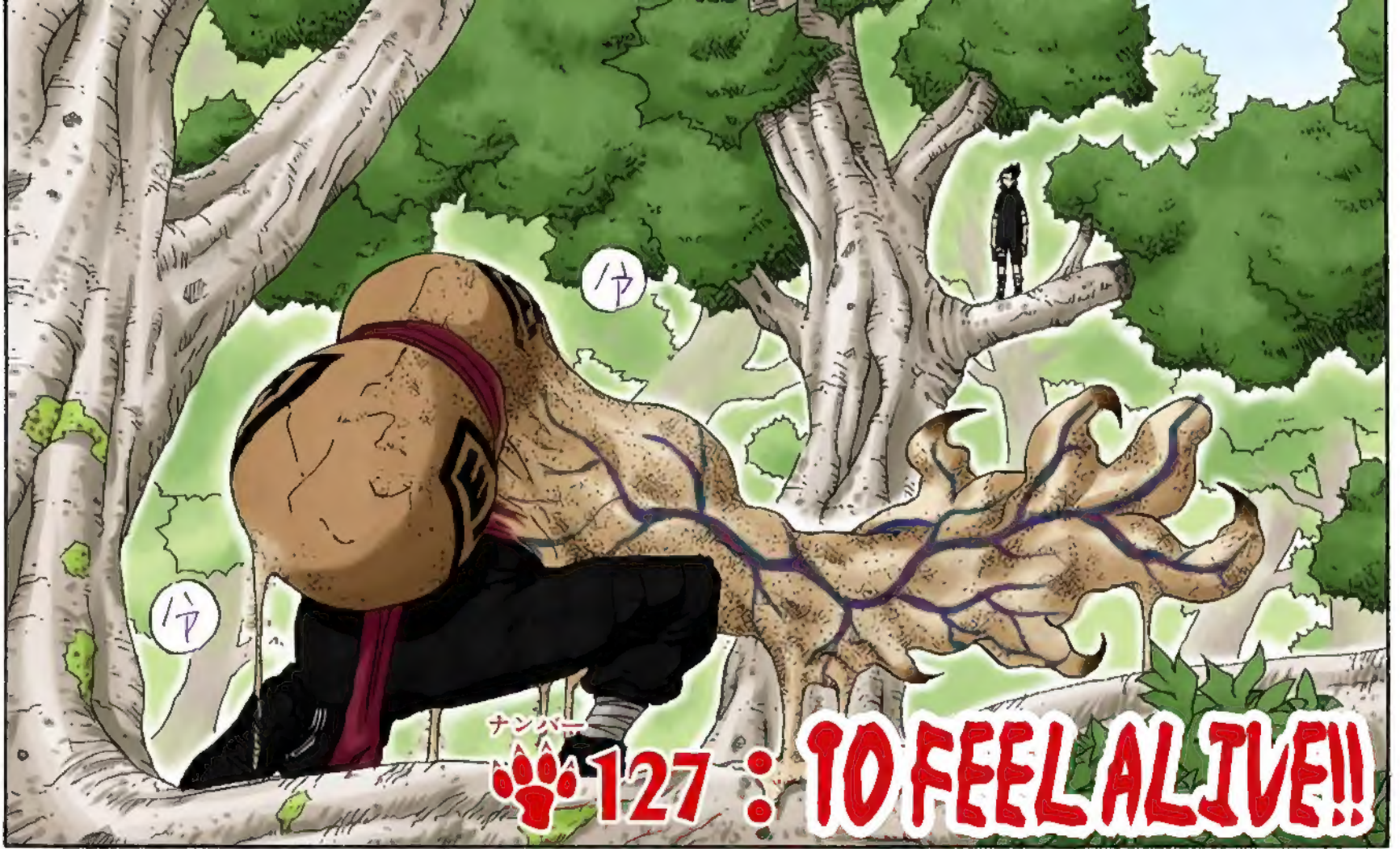
...Oh man! I've been so busy recently that I haven't gone to the movies--!!

I want to see movies...

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2002

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.







GAARA
OF
THE
SAND

UZUMAKI
NARUTO

UCHIHA
SASUKE

ナンバー

127 :

TO FEEL ALIVE!!



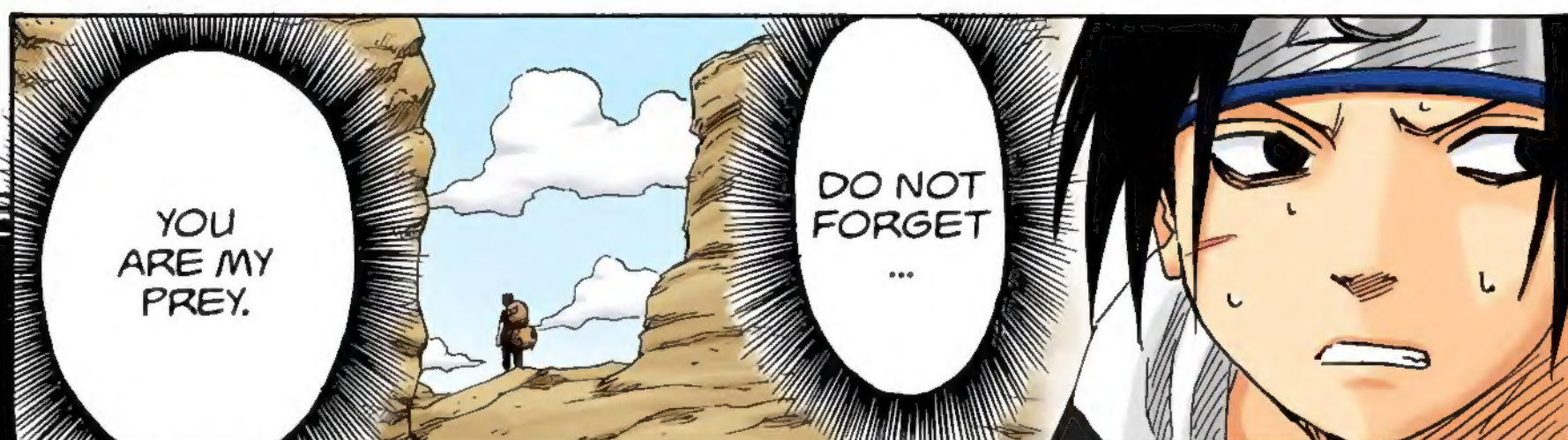
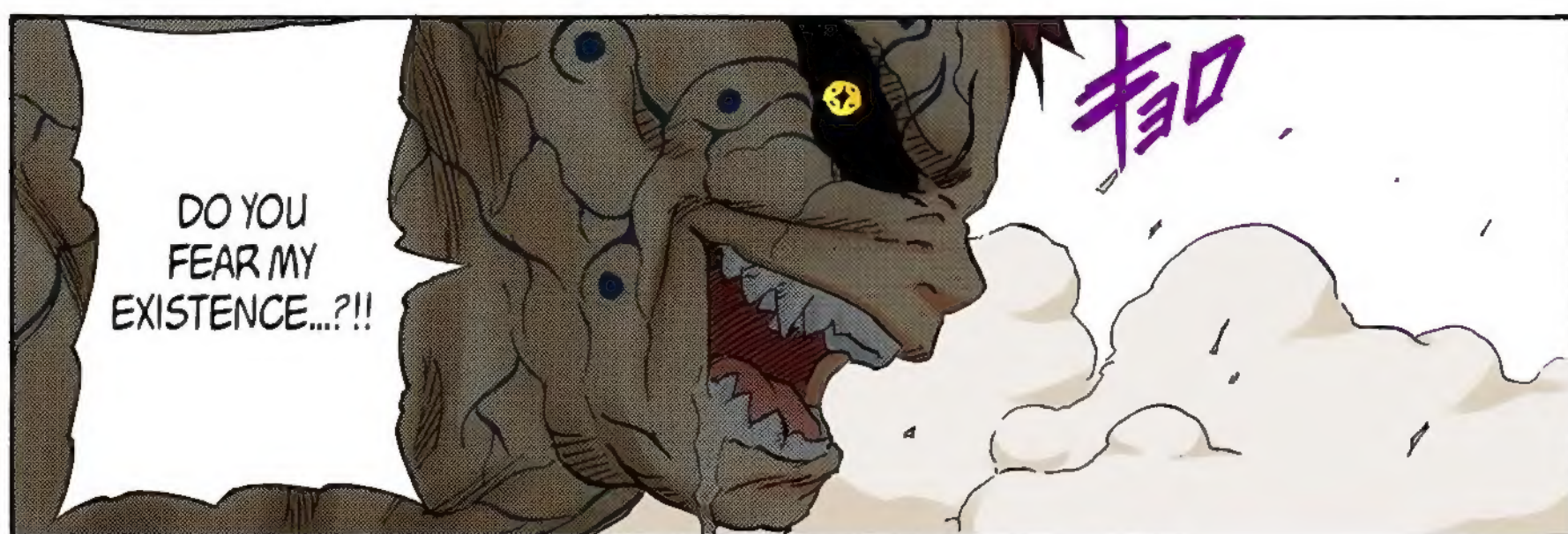


RRROAR!!



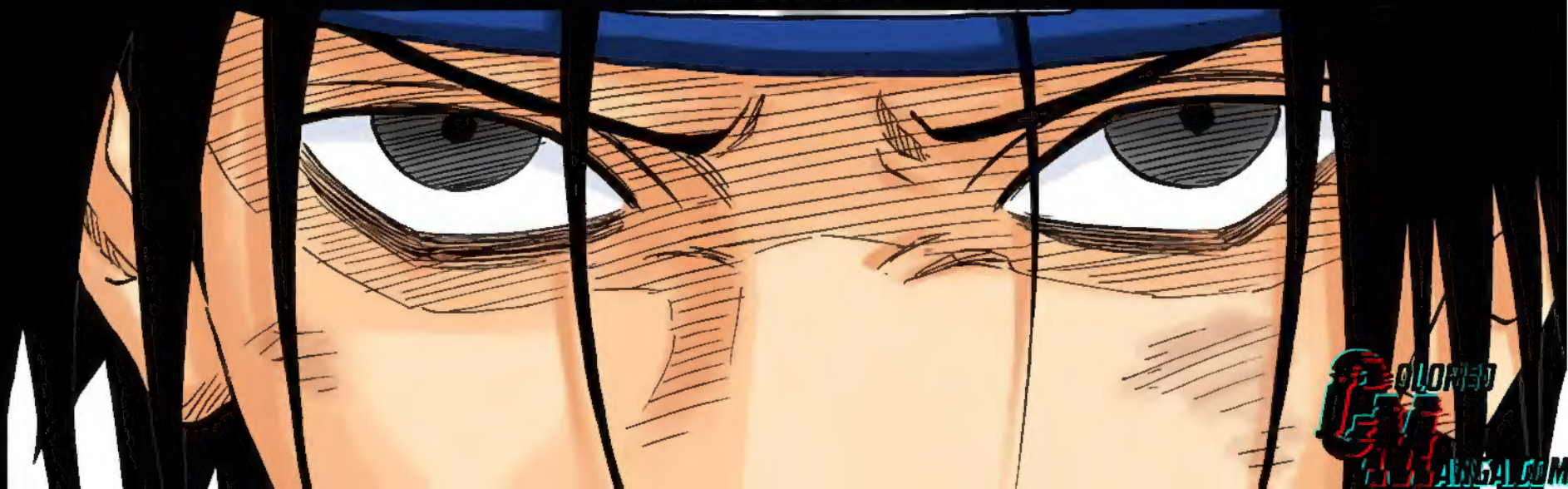




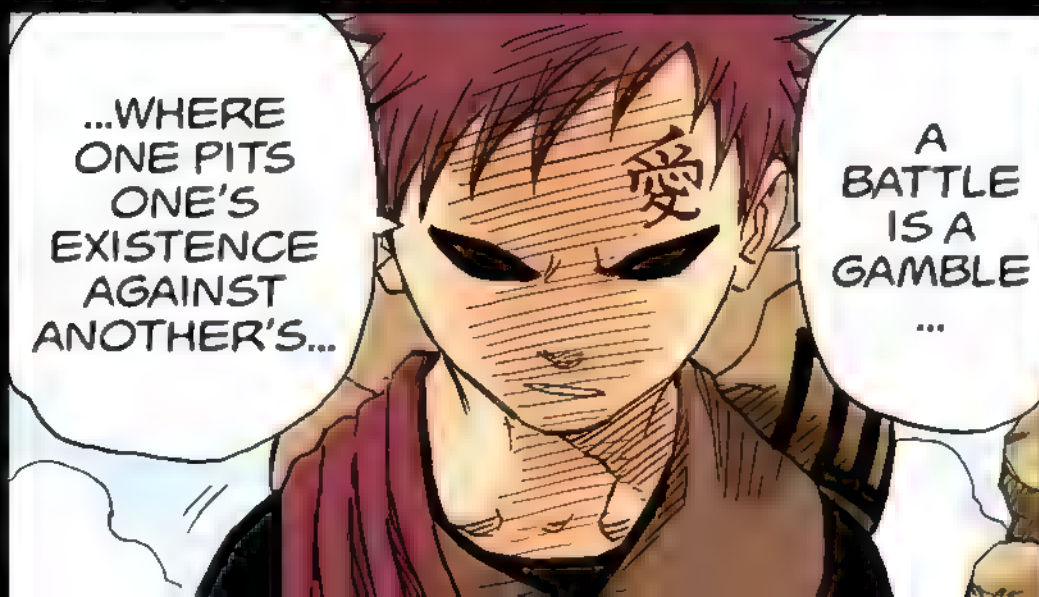
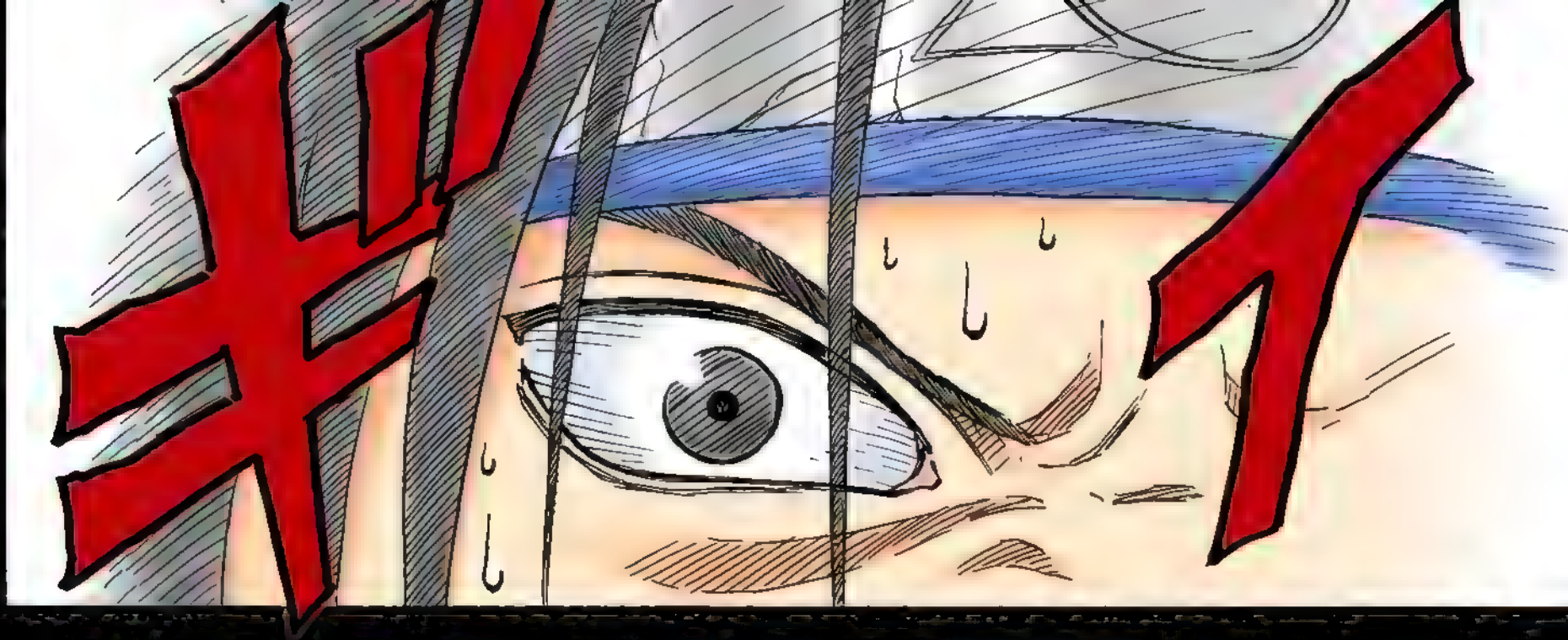




YOU'VE
GOT EYES
THAT KNOW
REAL
ISOLATION...









AND WHERE
ONLY THE
VICTOR GETS
TO SAVOR
THE WORTH
OF HIS
EXISTENCE.



AND
YOU TRY
TO KILL
EACH
OTHER...

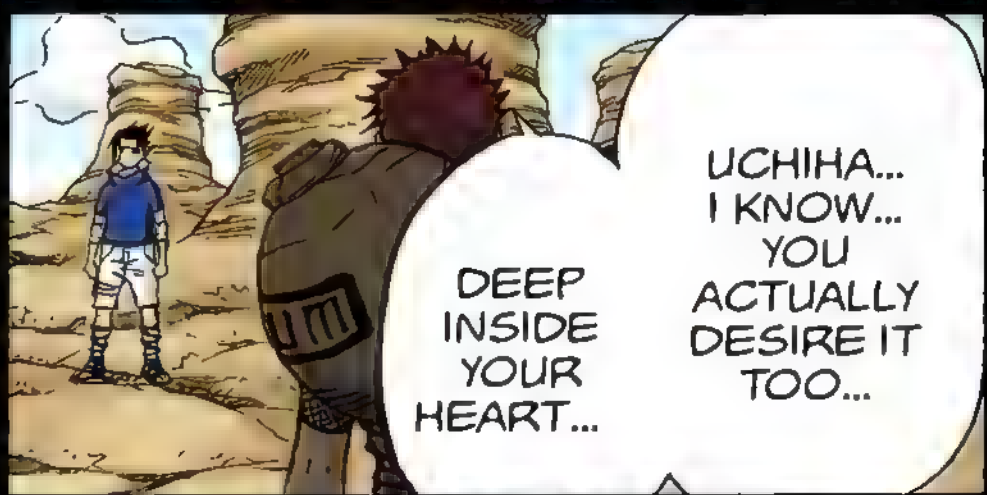


"LET'S
FIGHT A
DEATH
MATCH" AS
OPPOSED
TO JUST A
MATCH,
HMM?

...IN
OTHER
WORDS,
WHAT
YOU'RE
SAYING
IS...



"AM I TRULY
STRONGER
THAN THE
OPPONENT
I FACE WITH
THESE
HATE-FILLED
EYES OF MINE?"



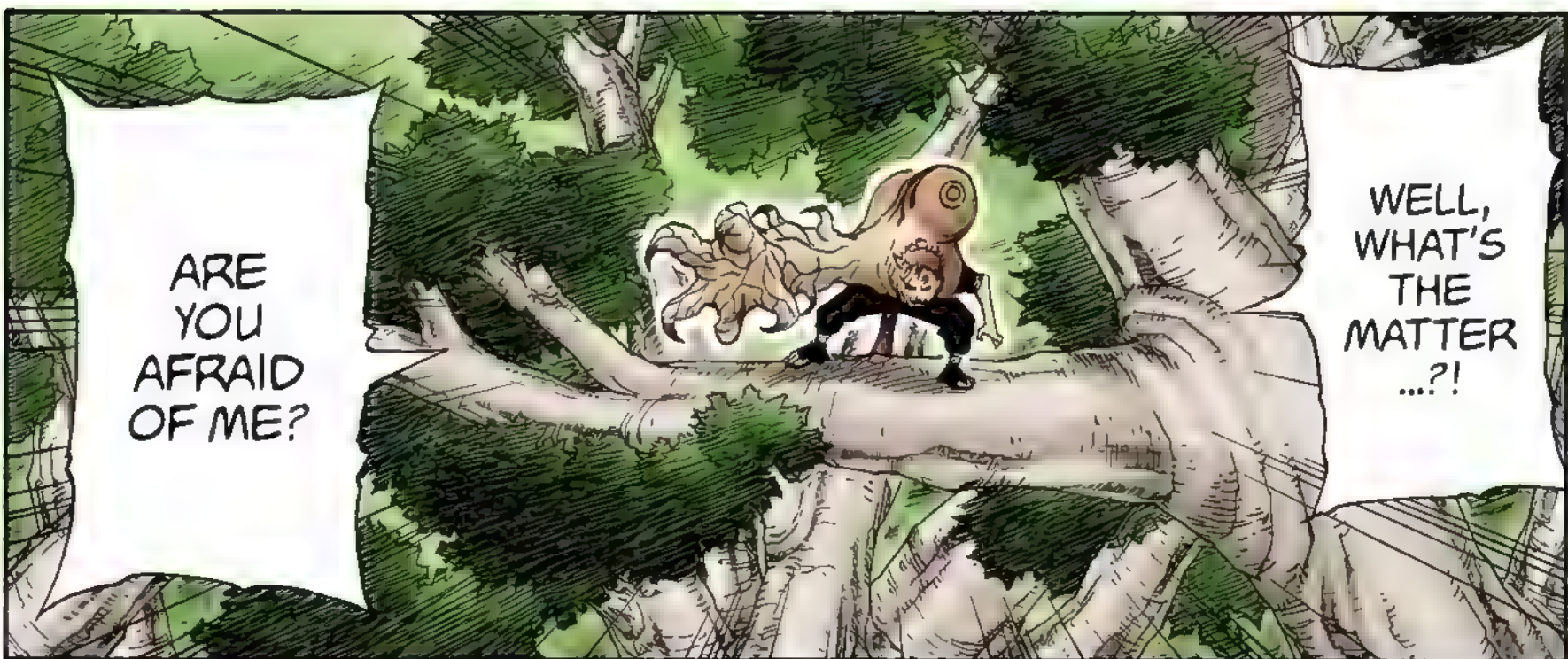
DEEP
INSIDE
YOUR
HEART...

UCHIHA...
I KNOW...
YOU
ACTUALLY
DESIRE IT
TOO...



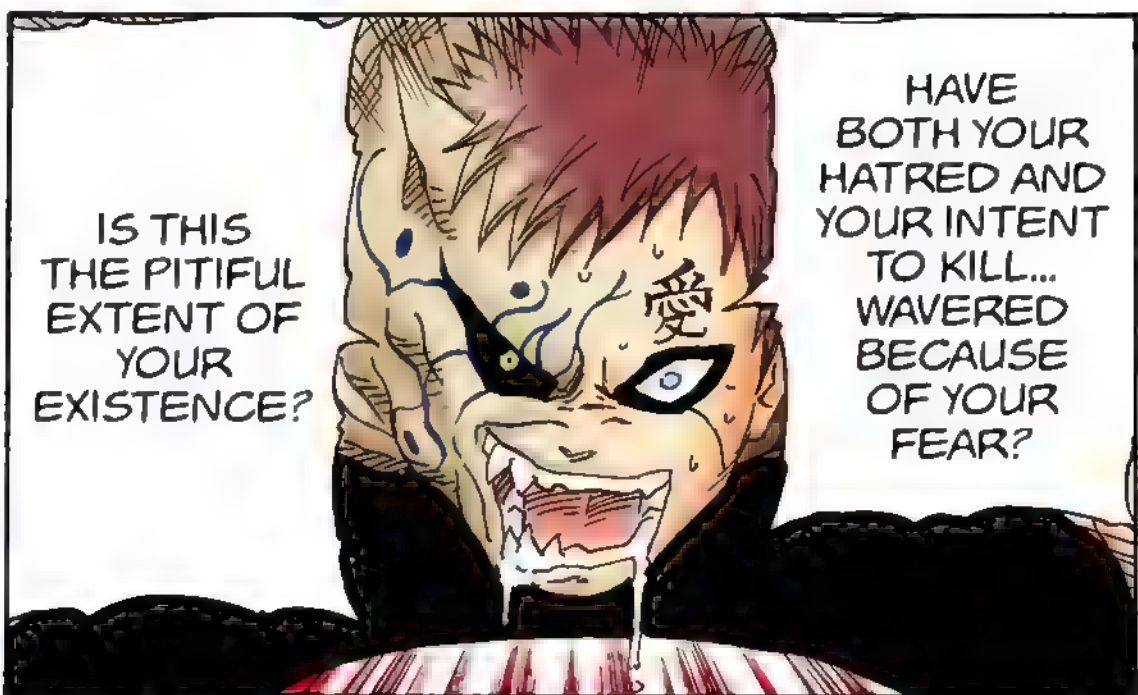
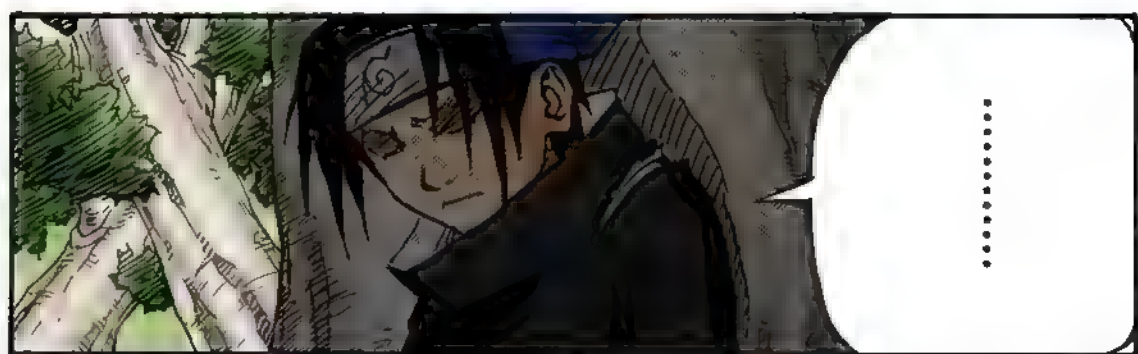
YOU'RE
WONDERING,
"AM I REALLY
AS STRONG
AS I
THOUGHT?"

YOU
WANT TO
CONFIRM
THE WORTH
OF YOUR
EXISTENCE...



ARE
YOU
AFRAID
OF ME?

WELL,
WHAT'S
THE
MATTER
...?!



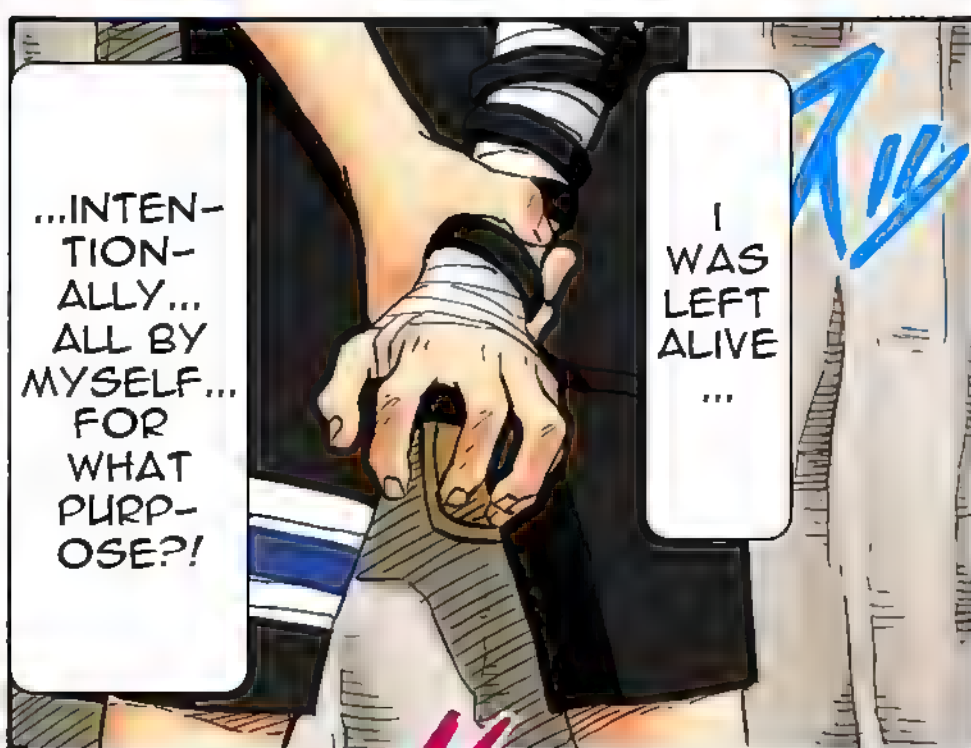
IS THIS
THE PITIFUL
EXTENT OF
YOUR
EXISTENCE?

HAVE
BOTH YOUR
HATRED AND
YOUR INTENT
TO KILL...
WAVERED
BECAUSE
OF YOUR
FEAR?



COME ON!!

IF YOU WANT AN ANSWER...



...INTENTIONALLY... ALL BY MYSELF... FOR WHAT PURPOSE?!

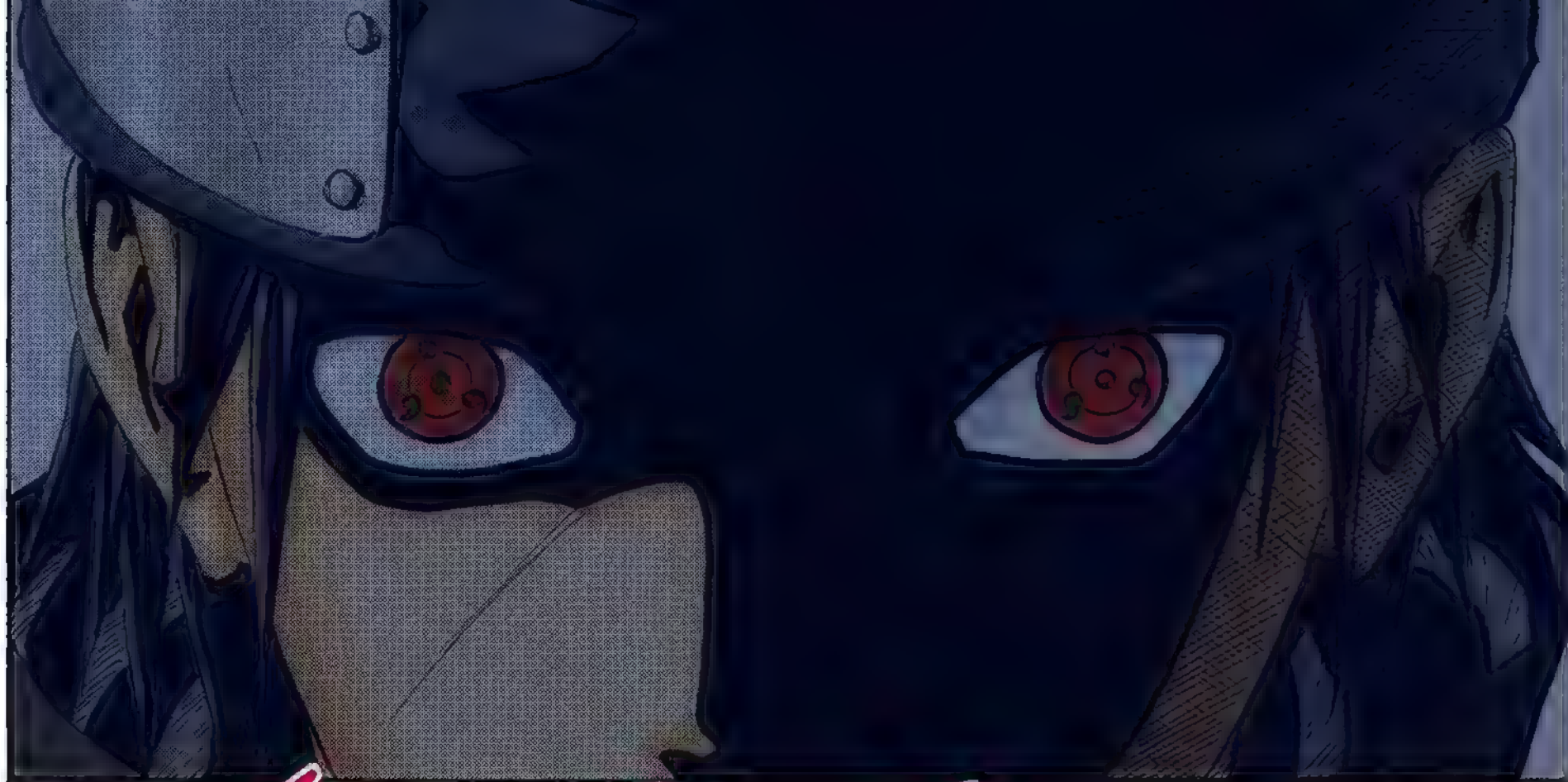
I WAS LEFT ALIVE ...



HE LEFT ME ALIVE SO HE WOULDN'T BE TORMENTED BY THE GUILT OF ANNIHILATING THE ENTIRE CLAN...



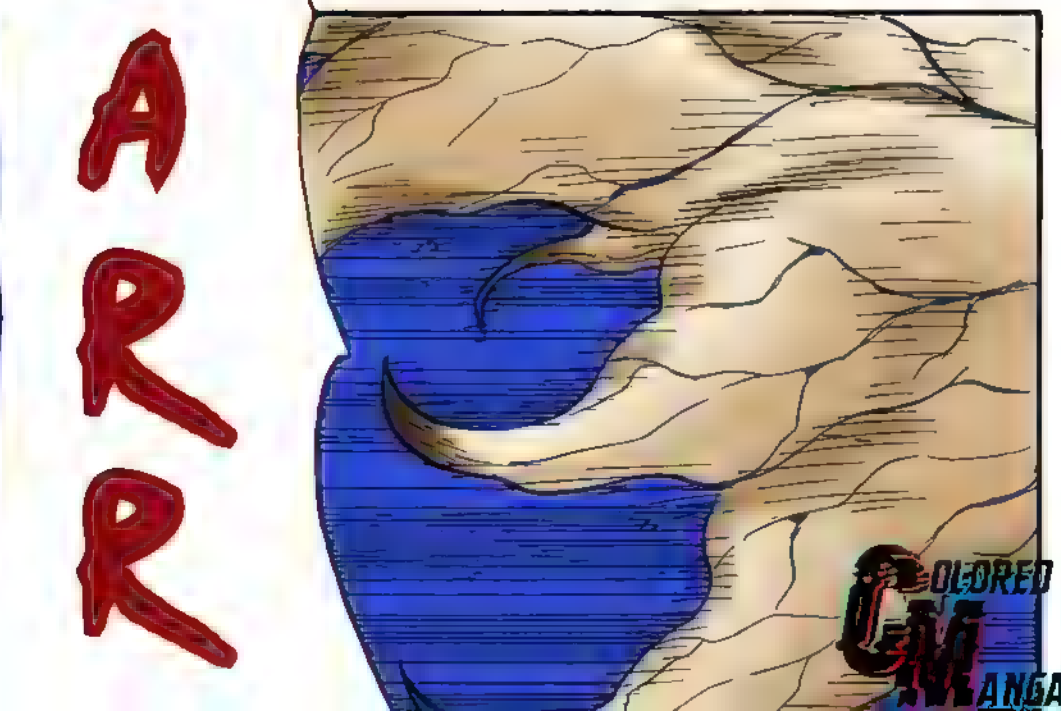
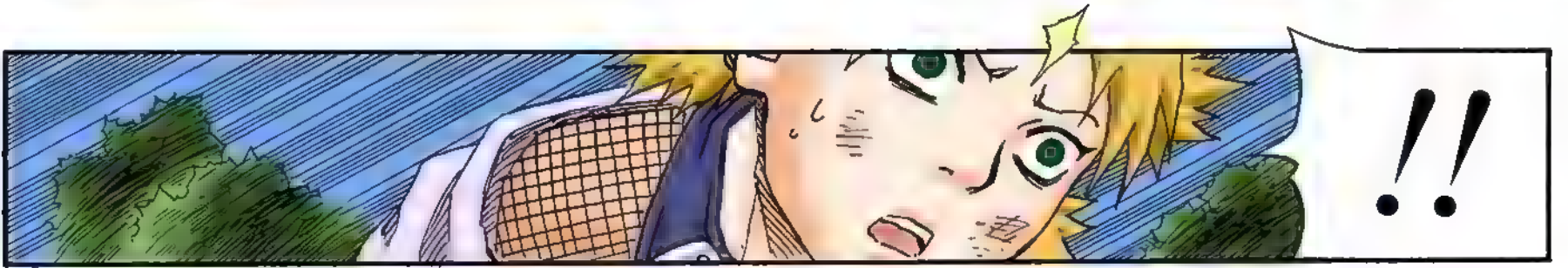
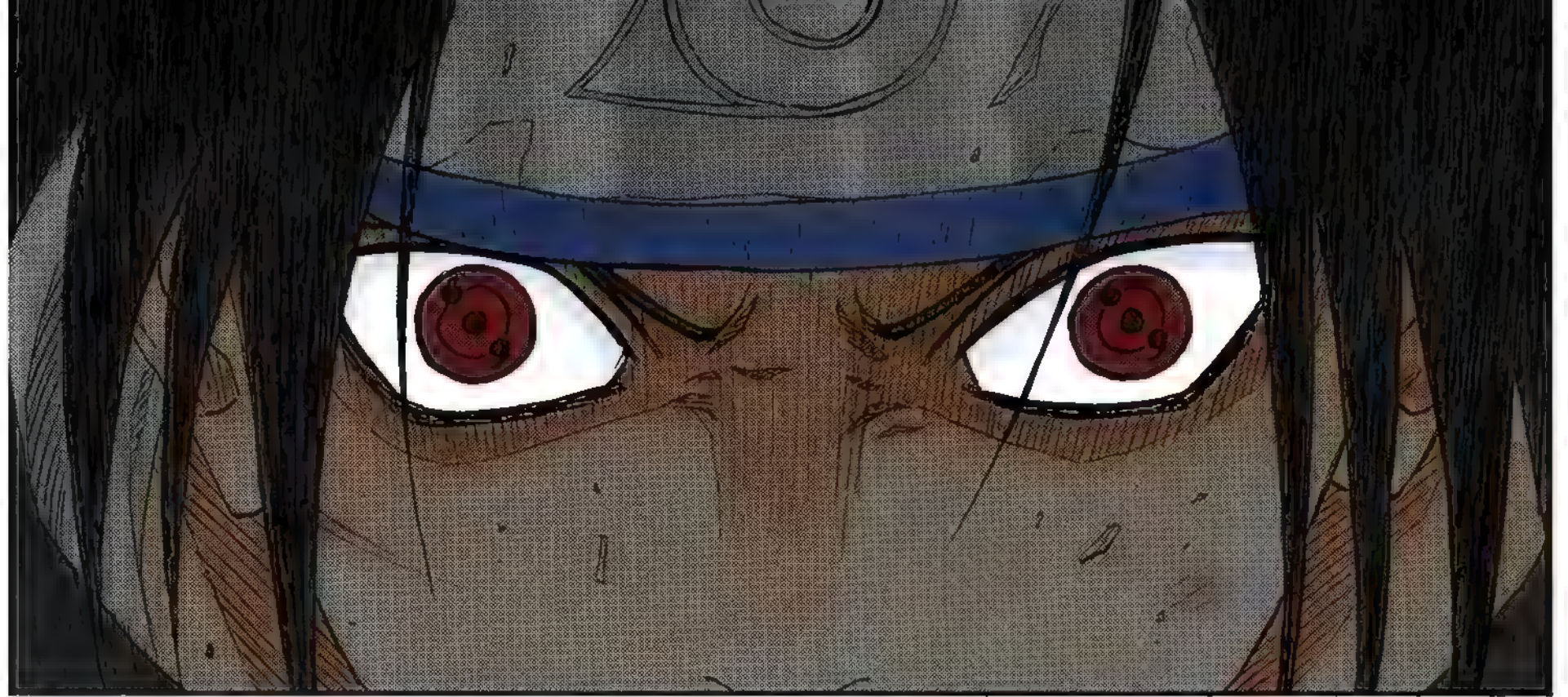
NAH... I KNOW THE REASON...

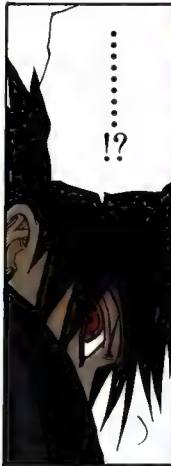


AS THE
ONE WHO
WILL
EVENTUALLY
DESTROY
HIM!

BIG
BROTHER
ITACHI
CHOSE
ME AS
HIS
AVENGER
...



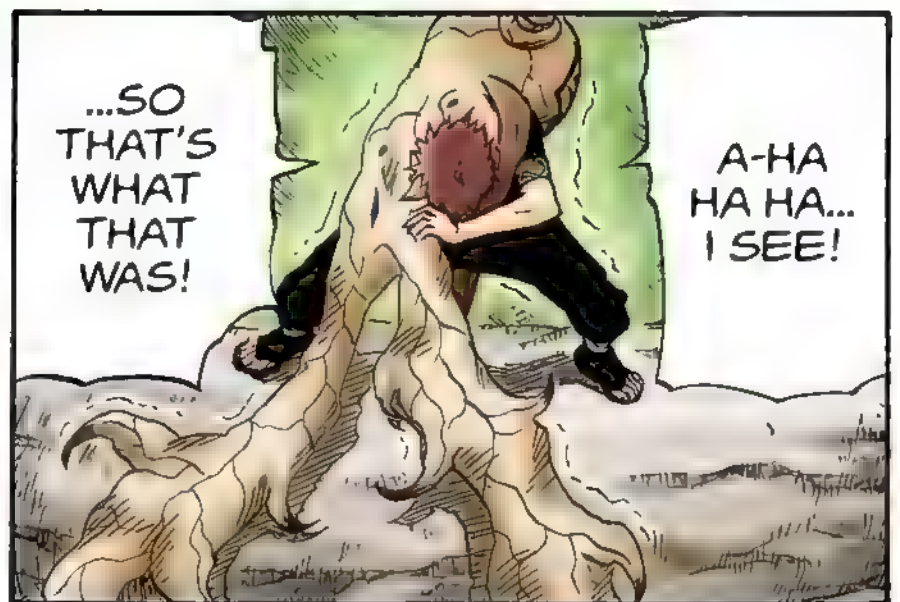
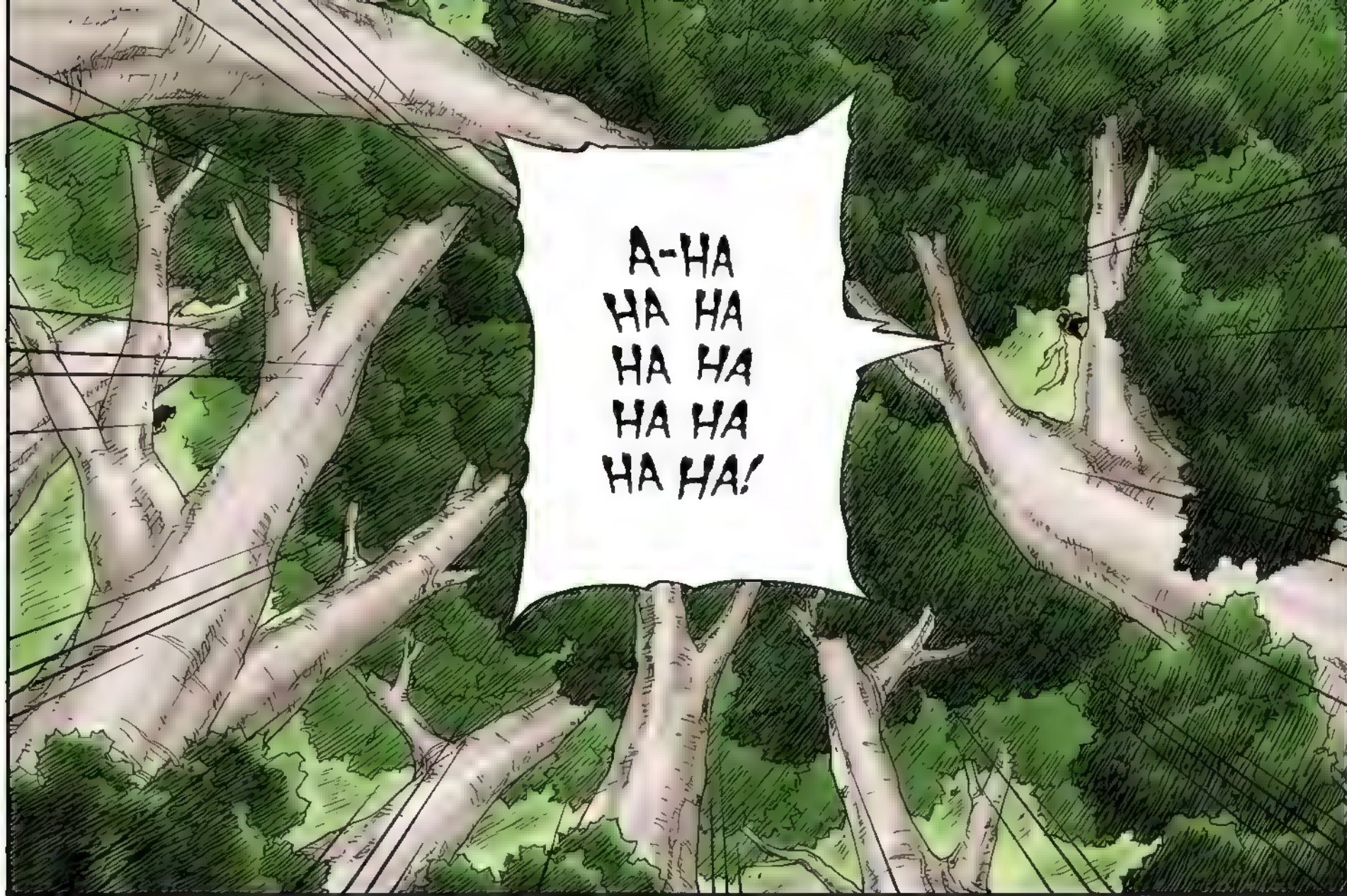




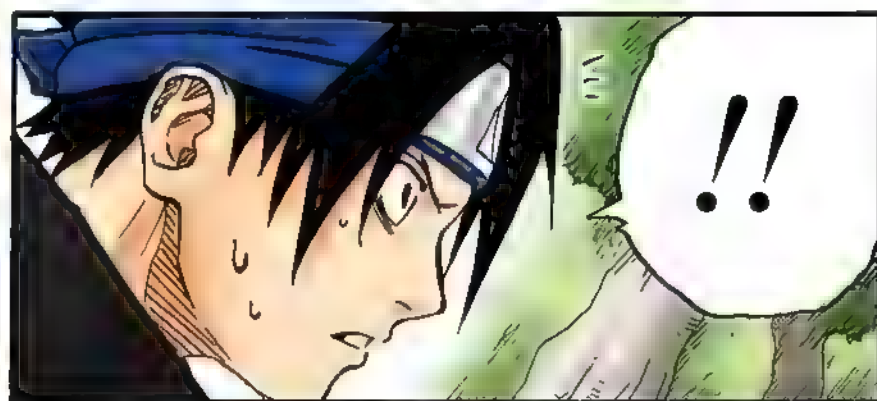
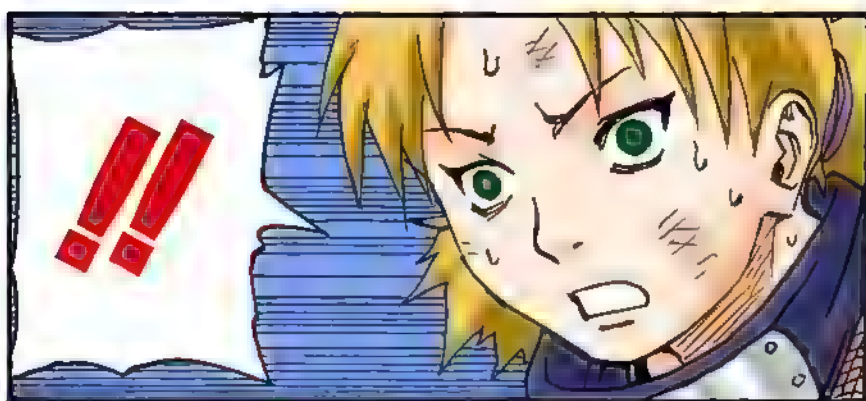
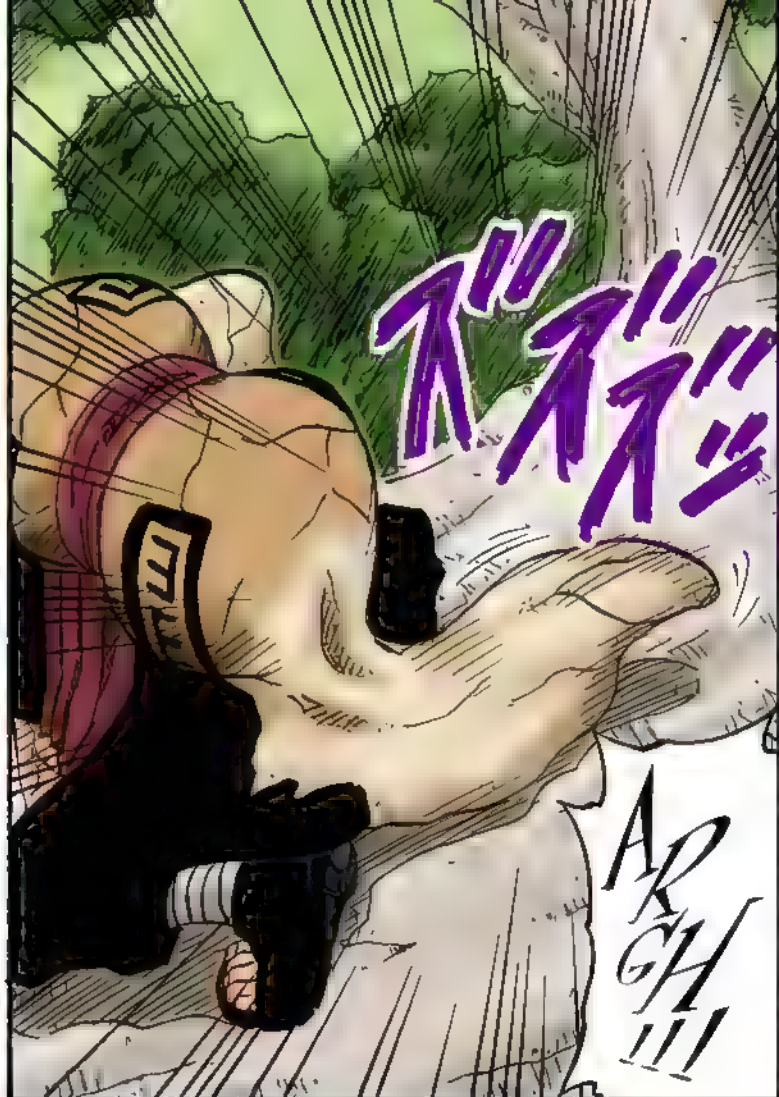
ナンバー

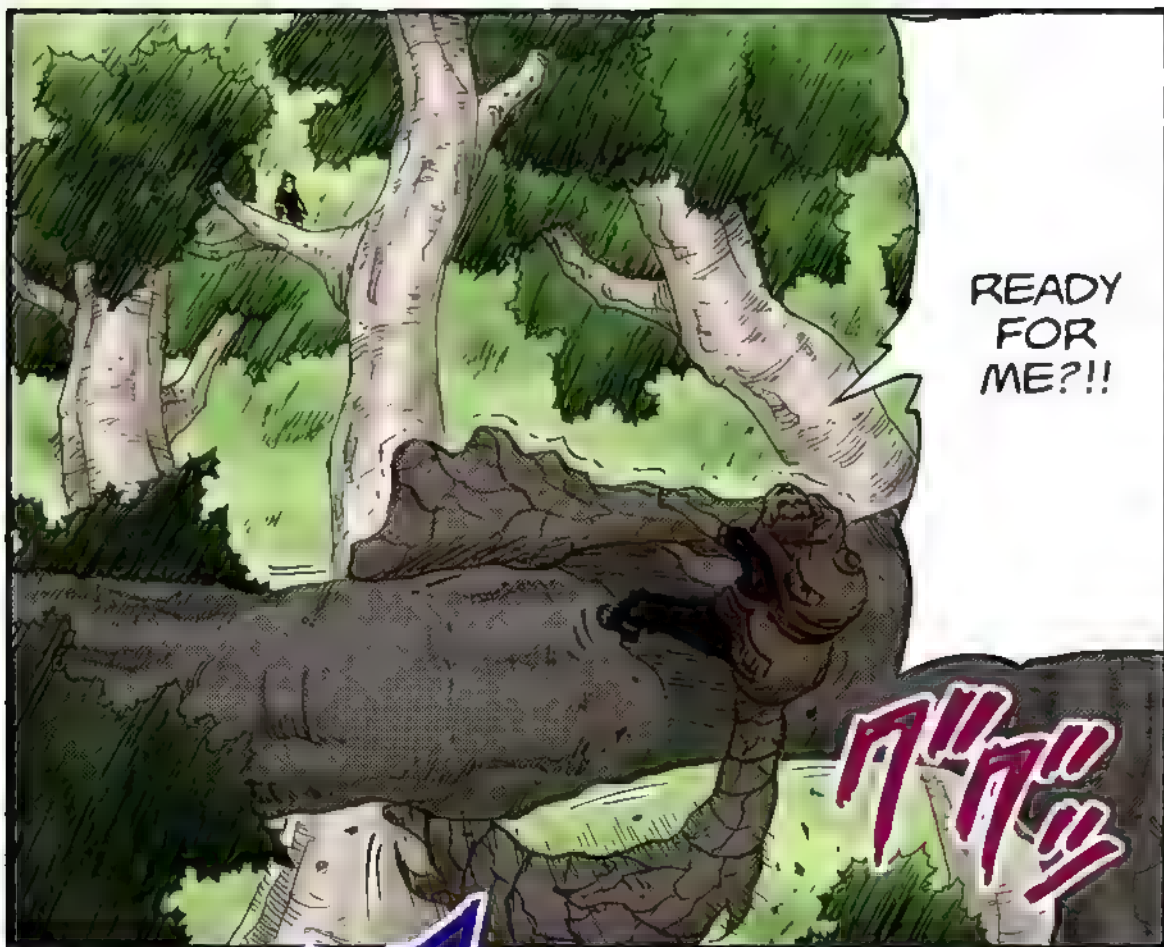
128 :









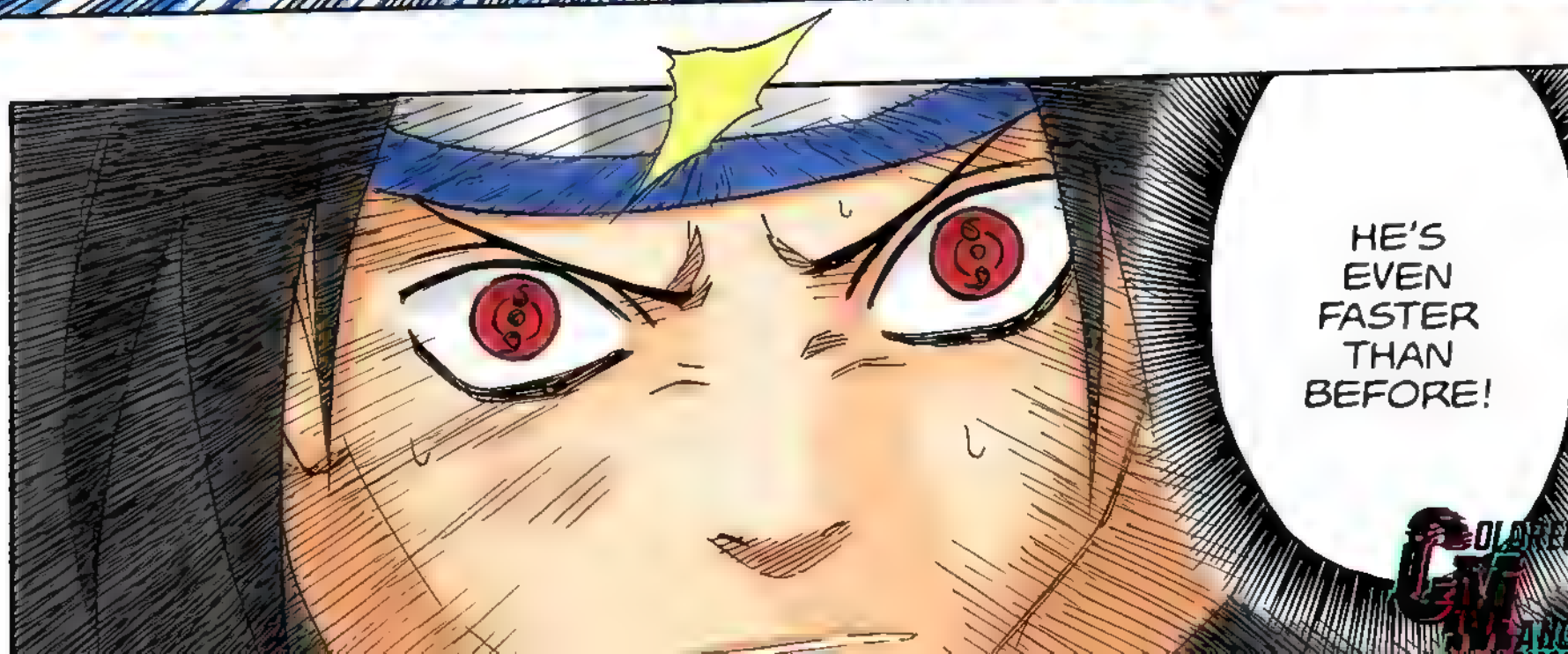
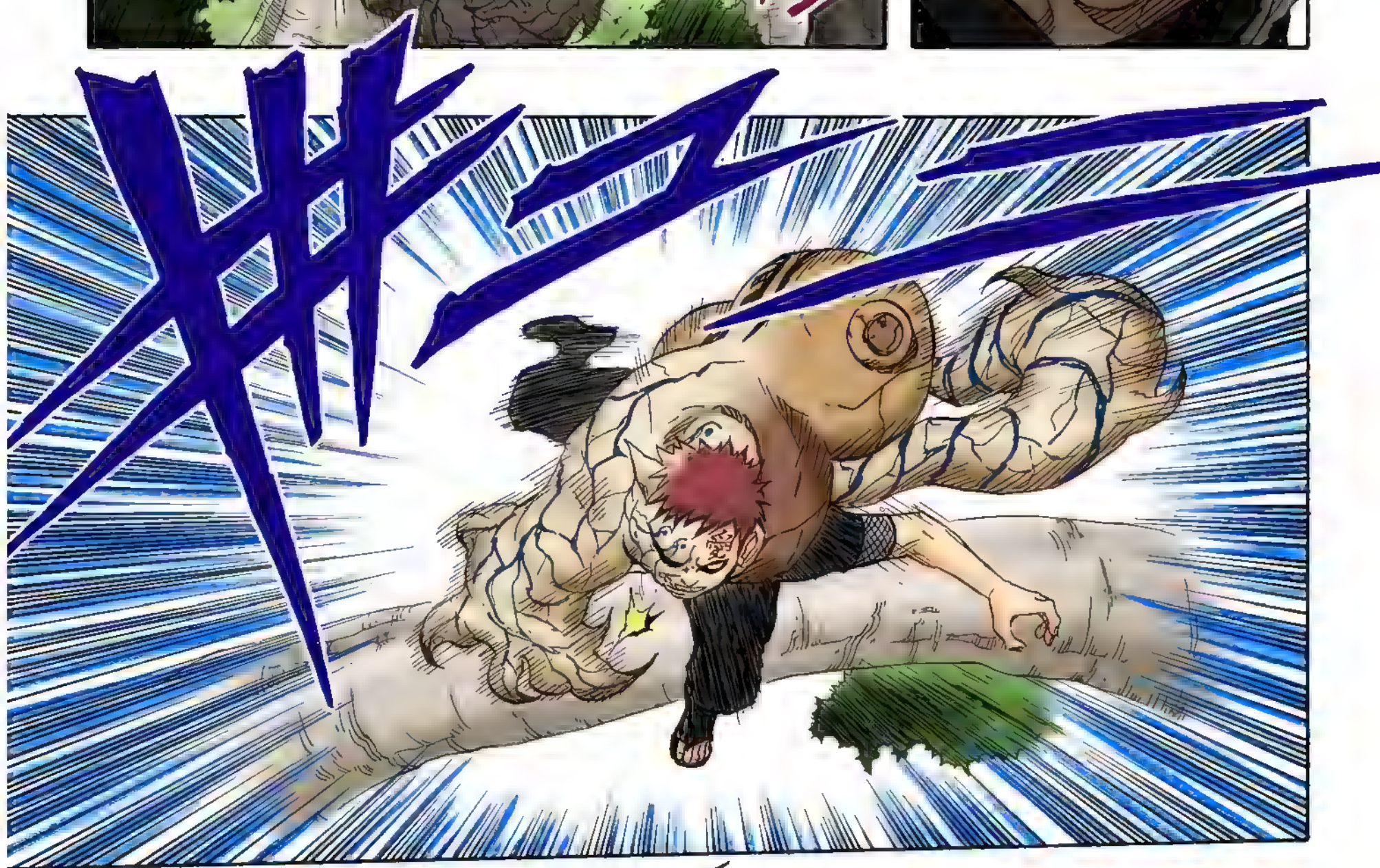


READY
FOR
ME?!!

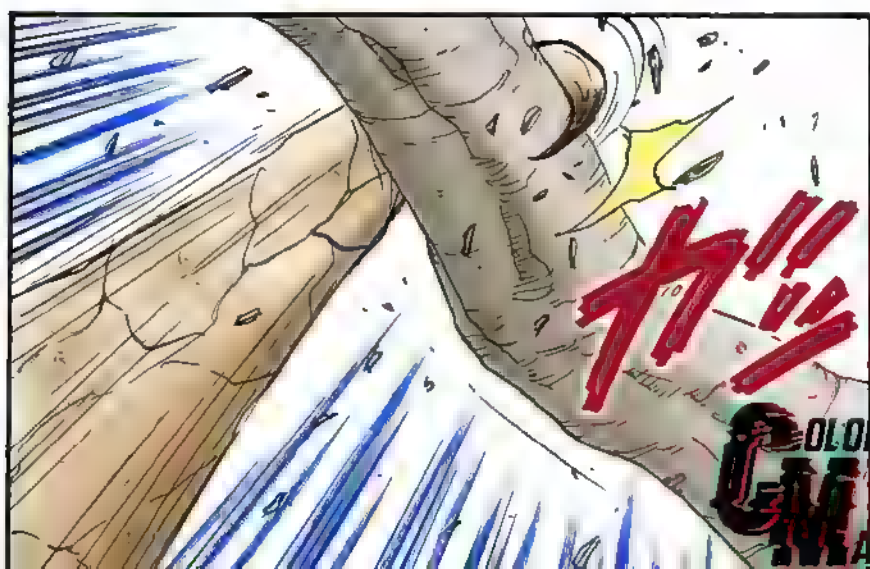
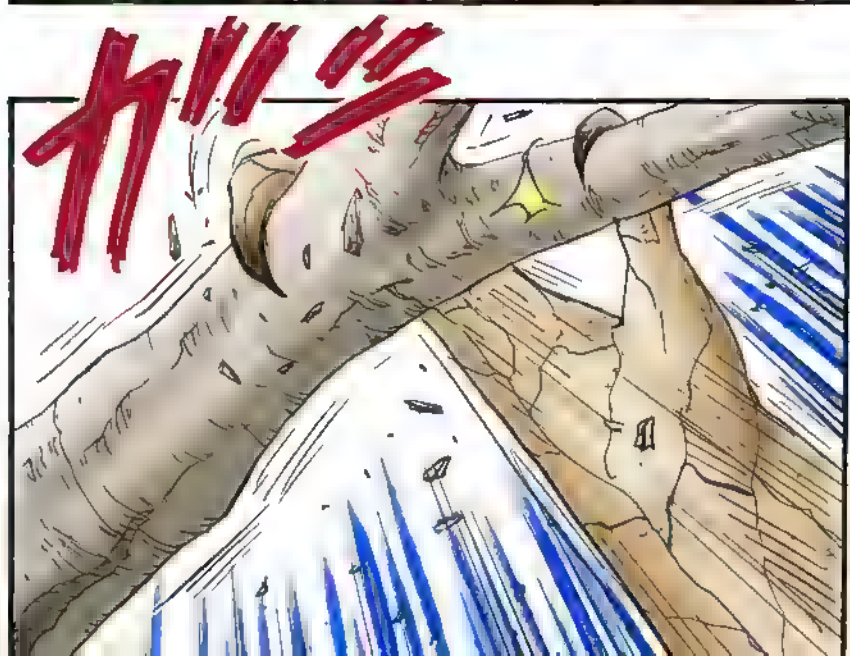
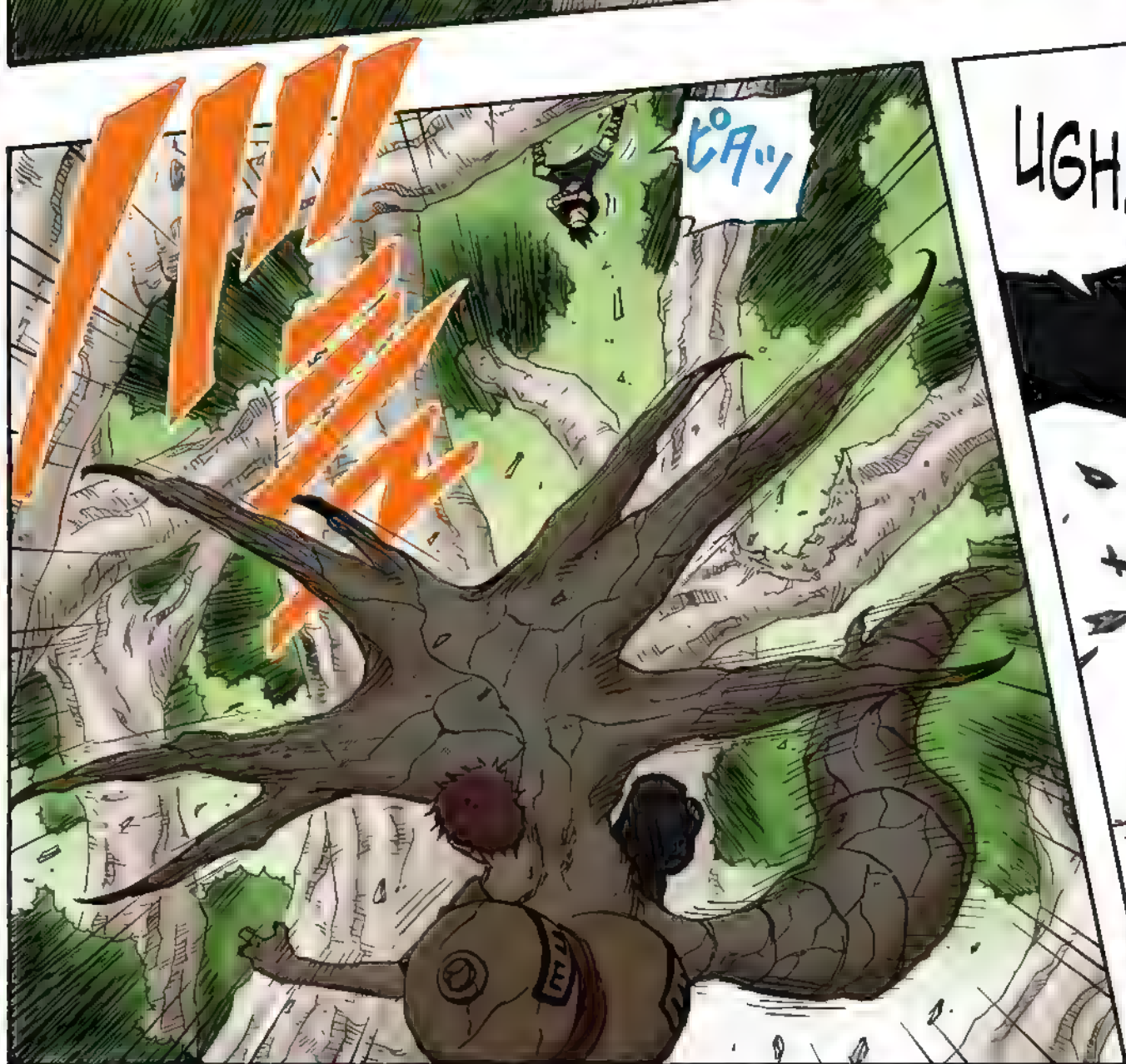


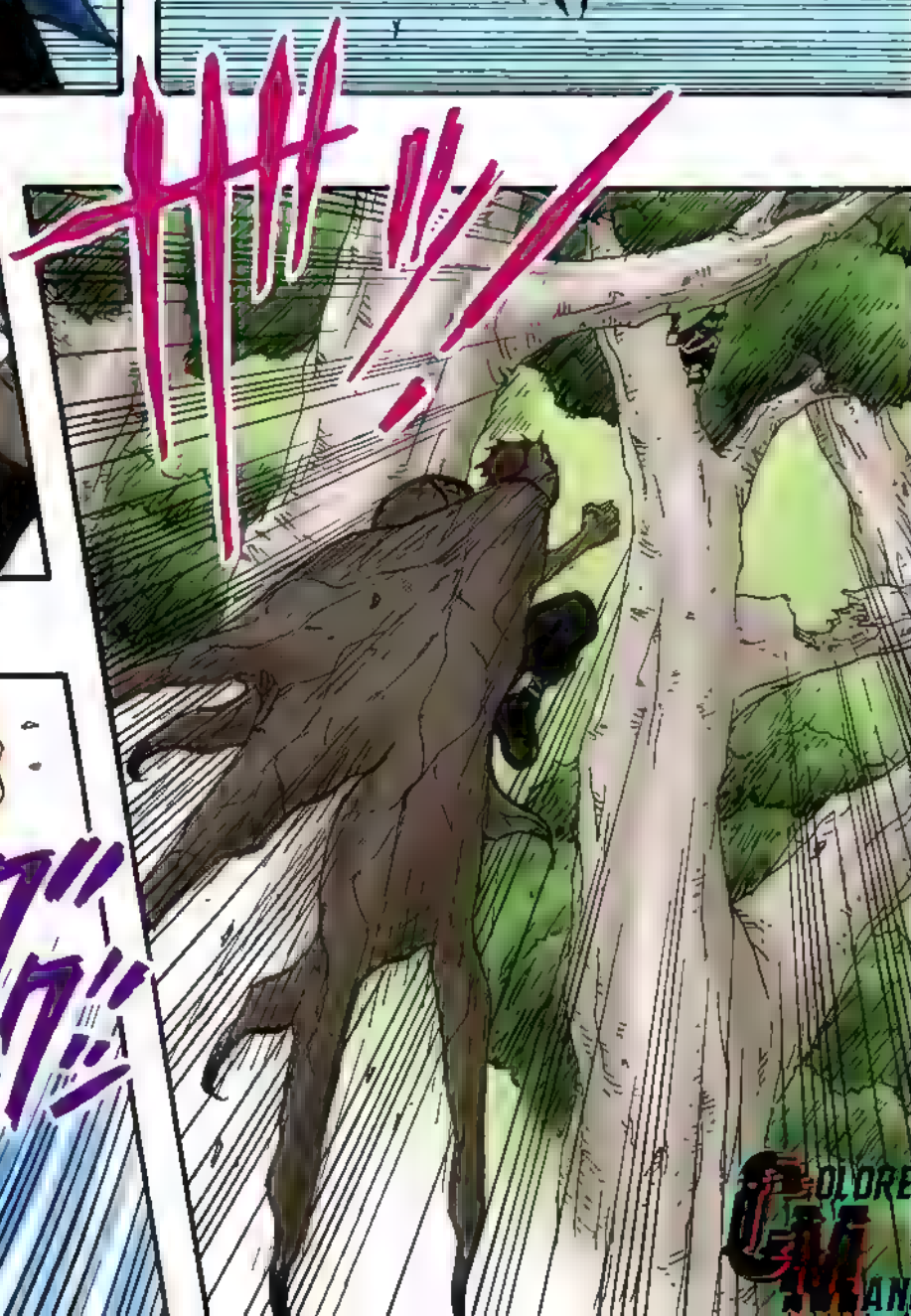
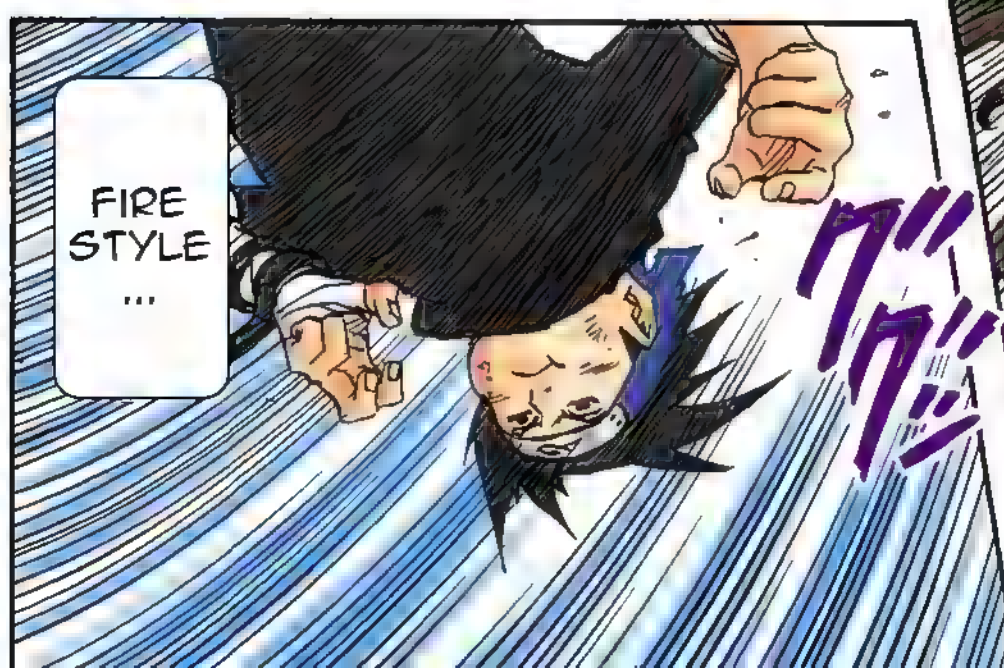
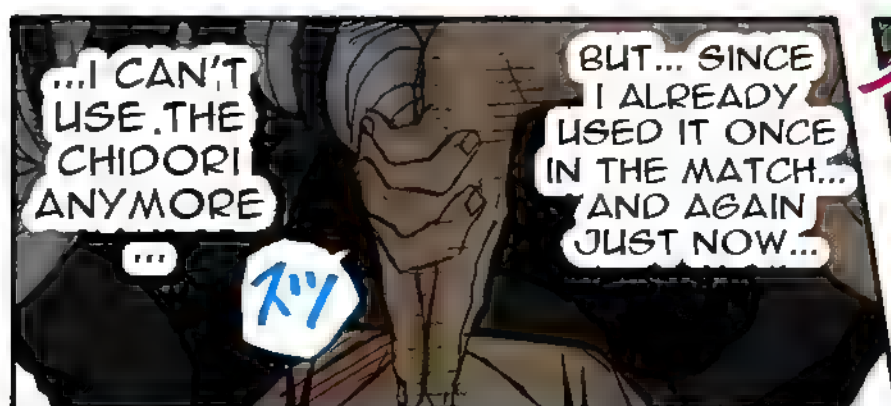
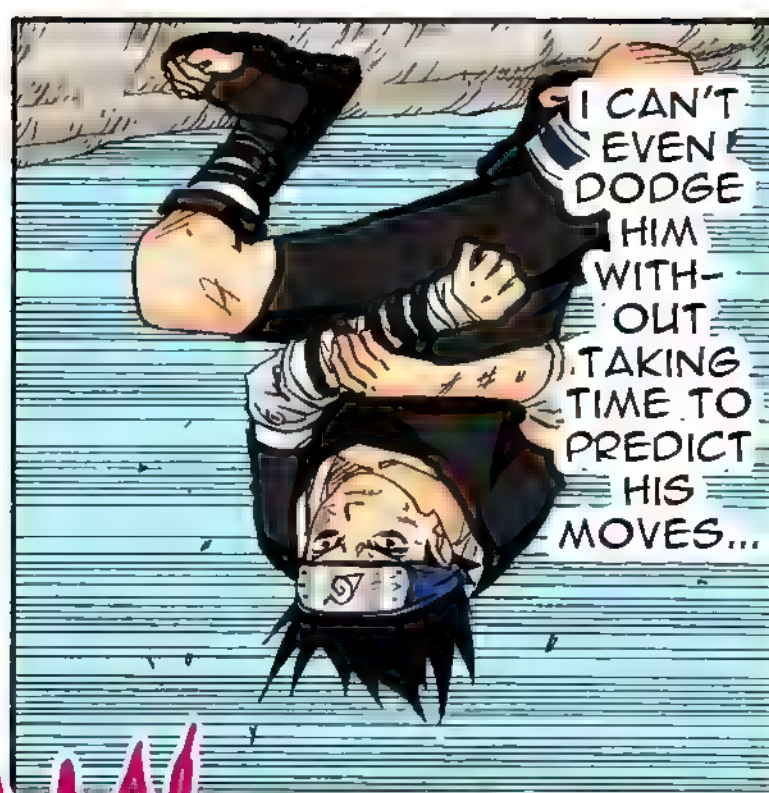
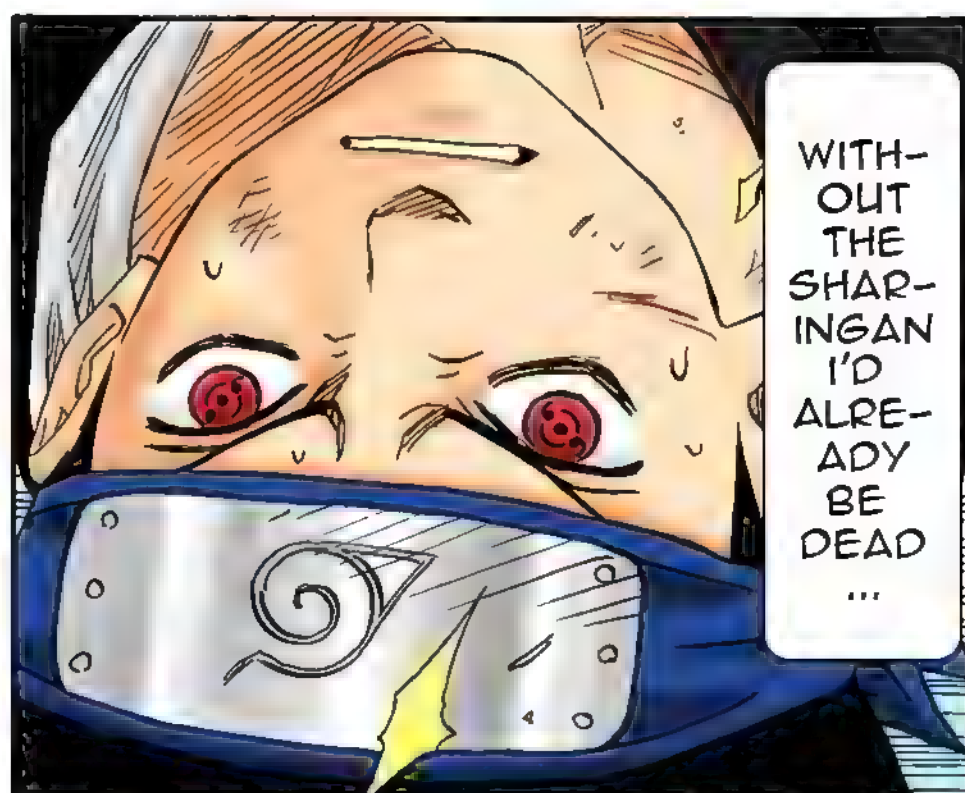
ONE
AFTER
ANOTHER
...

...WHAT
IS
HE?!!



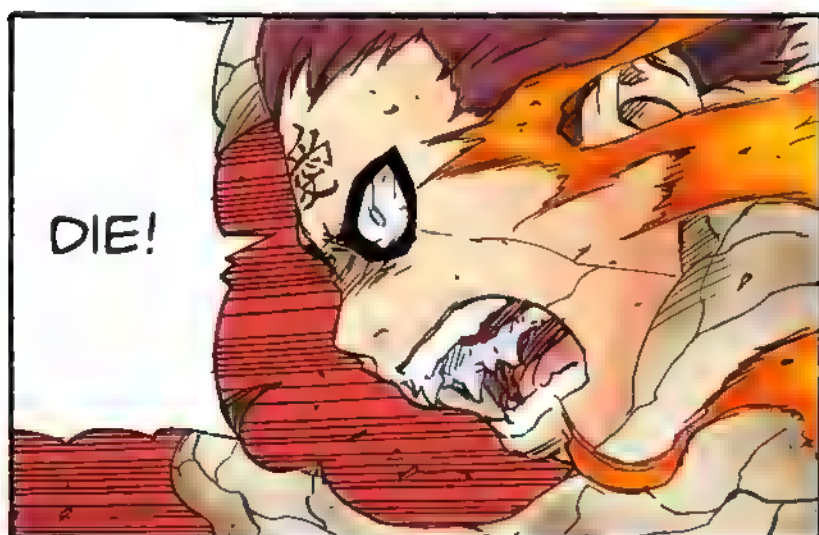
HE'S
EVEN
FASTER
THAN
BEFORE!



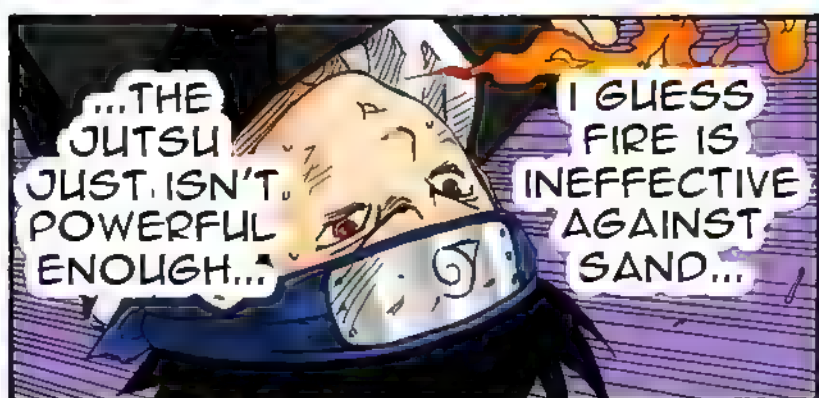




GOK-
AKYU
NO
JUTSU!
FIRE
STYLE!
FIRE-
BALL
TECHNI-
QUE!!

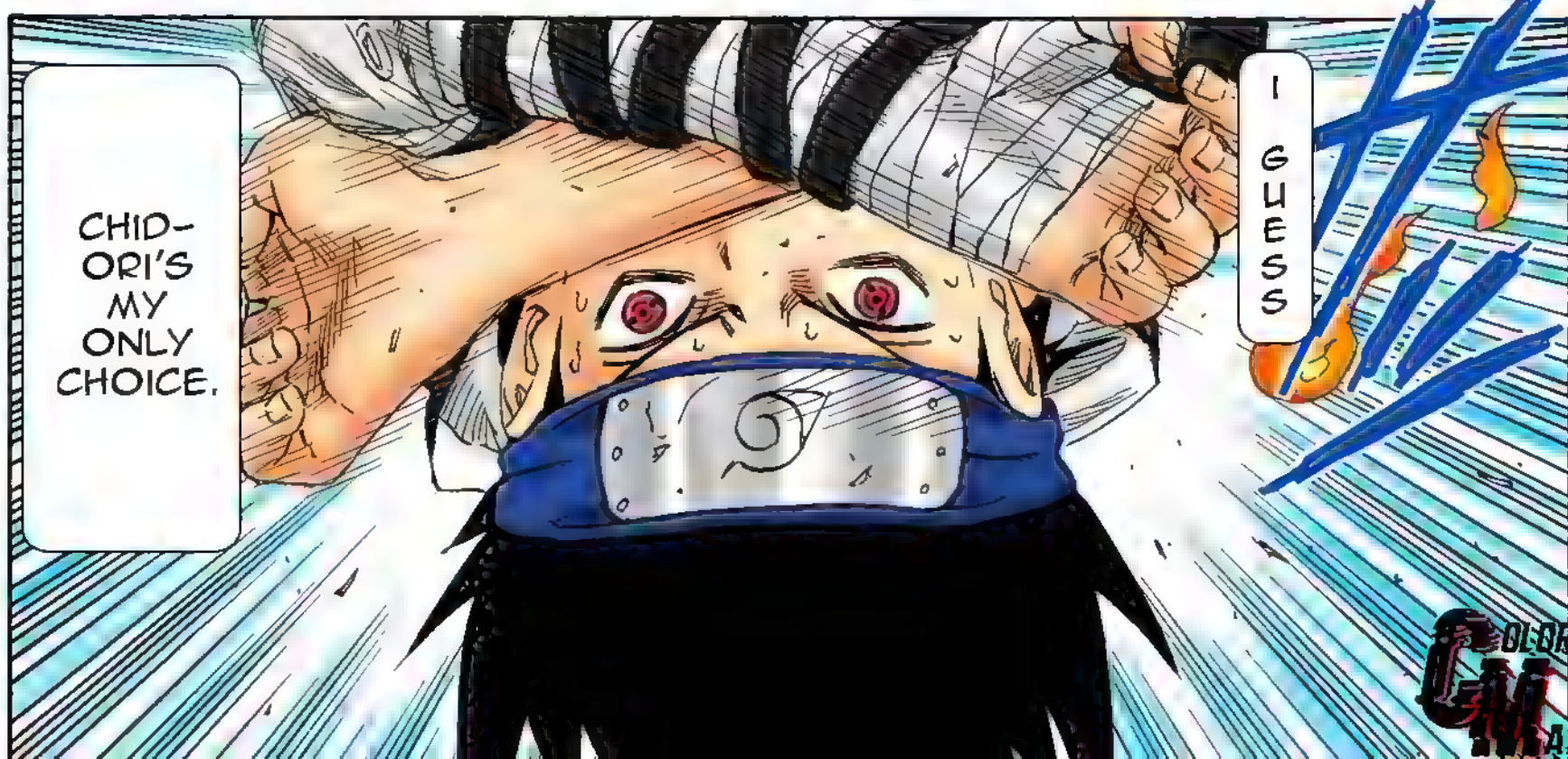


DIE!



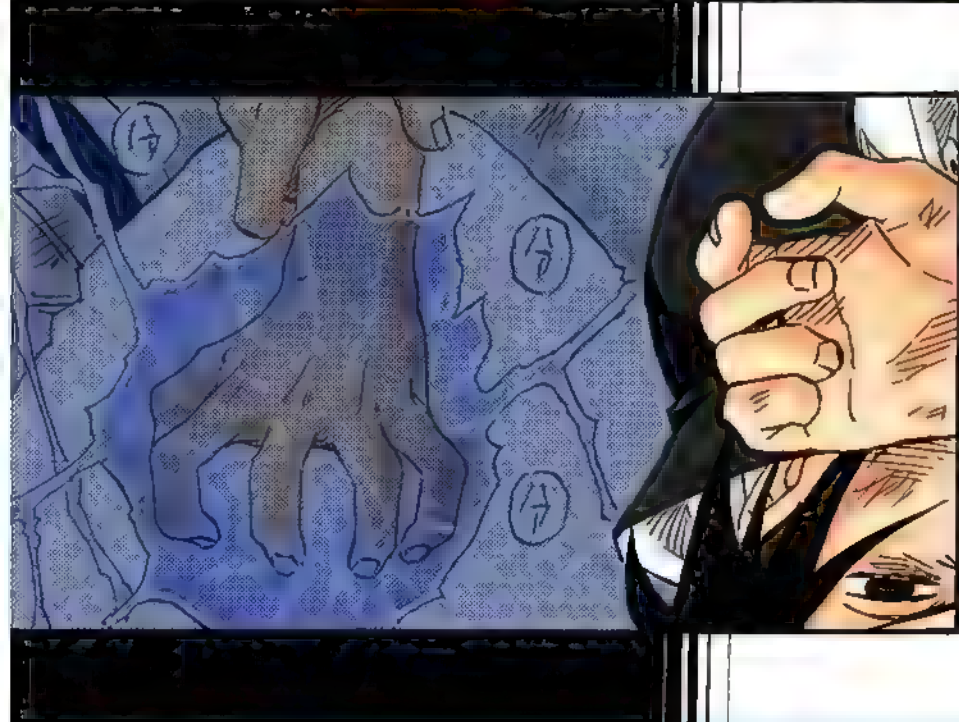
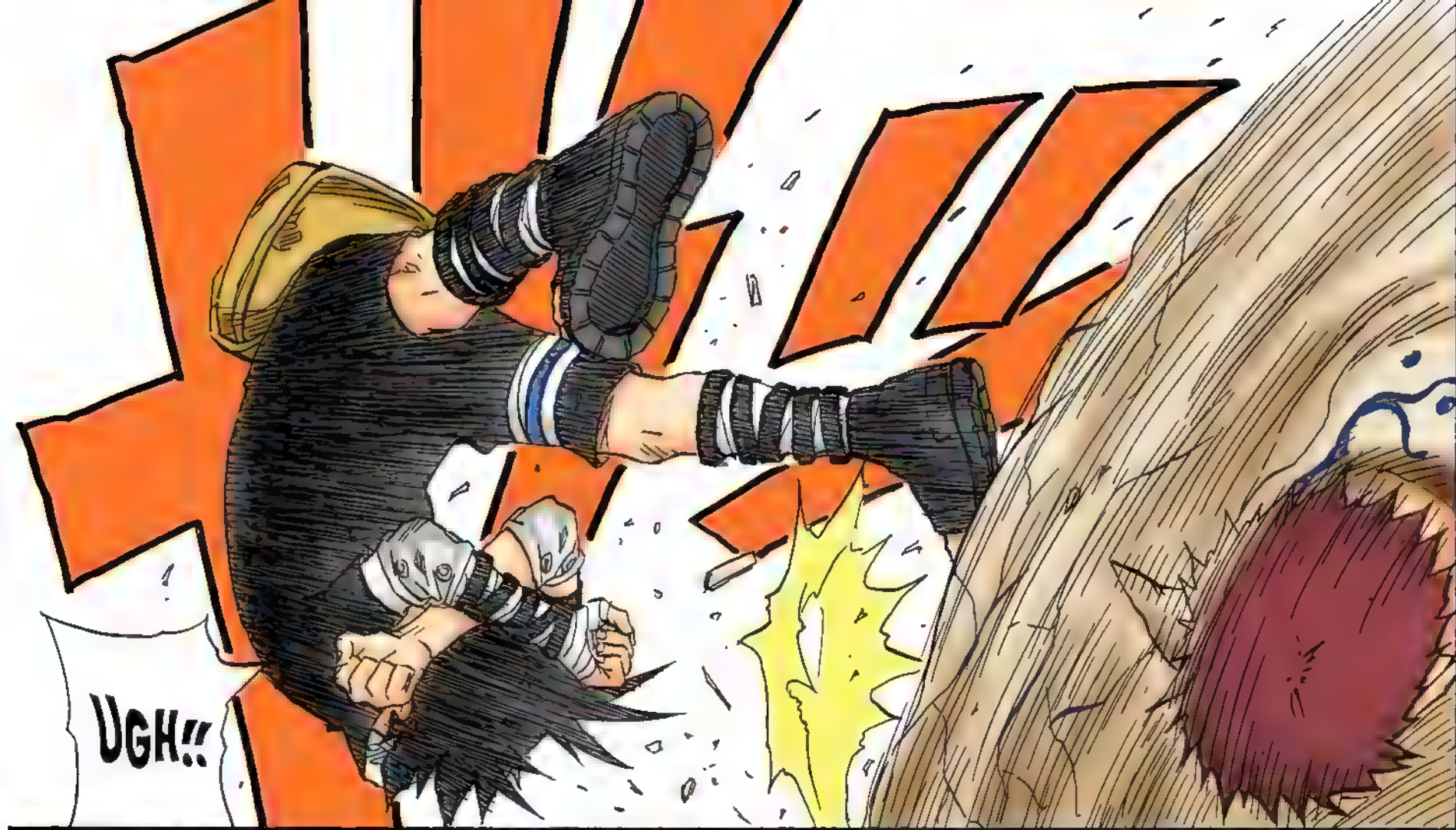
...THE
JUTSU
JUST ISN'T
POWERFUL
ENOUGH...

I GUESS
FIRE IS
INEFFECTIVE
AGAINST
SAND...



CHID-
ORI'S
MY
ONLY
CHOICE.

I
GUESS







...IF I TRY
TO PUT
OUT
MORE
THAN
TWO?

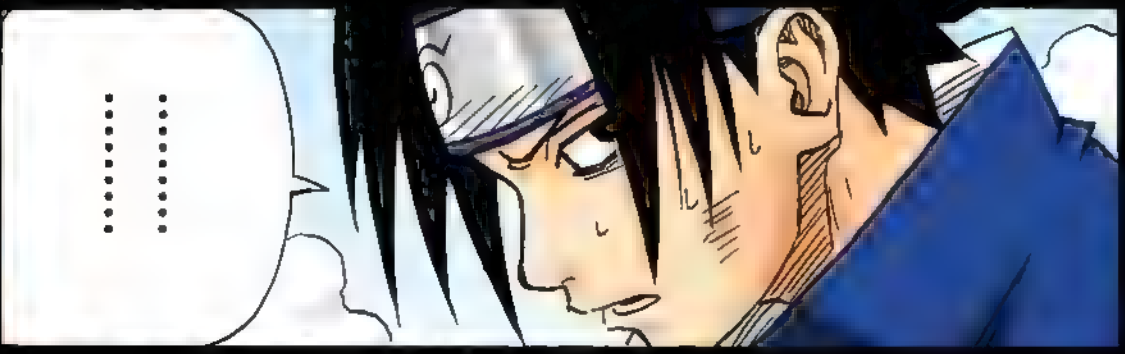
WHAT
WOULD
HAPPEN
...



EVEN I...

IF I USE
FOUR
CHIDORI OR
RAIKIRI IN
THE SAME
DAY, I'LL USE
UP ALL OF
MY
CHAKRA...

BUT!
YOU'RE
STILL
AMAZING...



...



THE THIRD
ONE WON'T
START... AND
LISTEN
CAREFULLY!



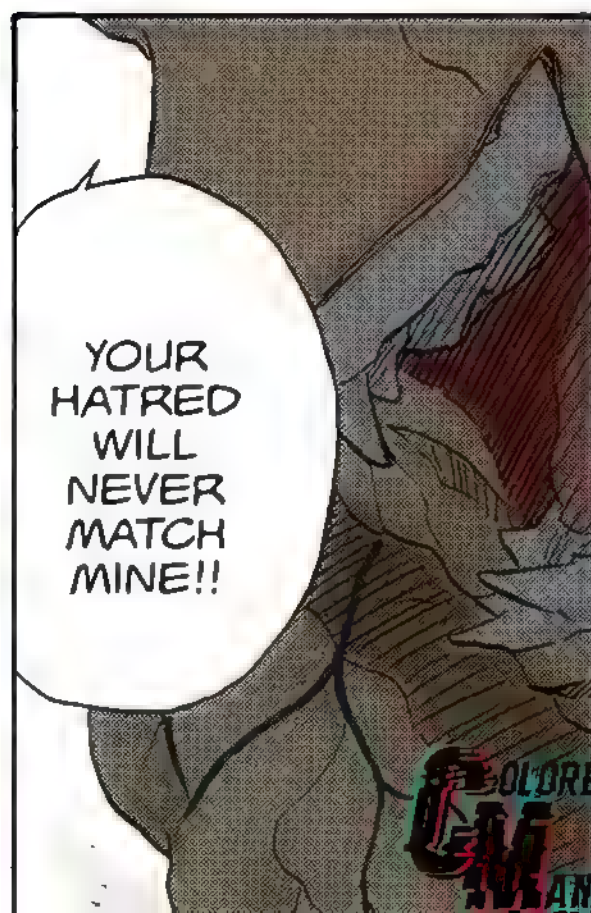
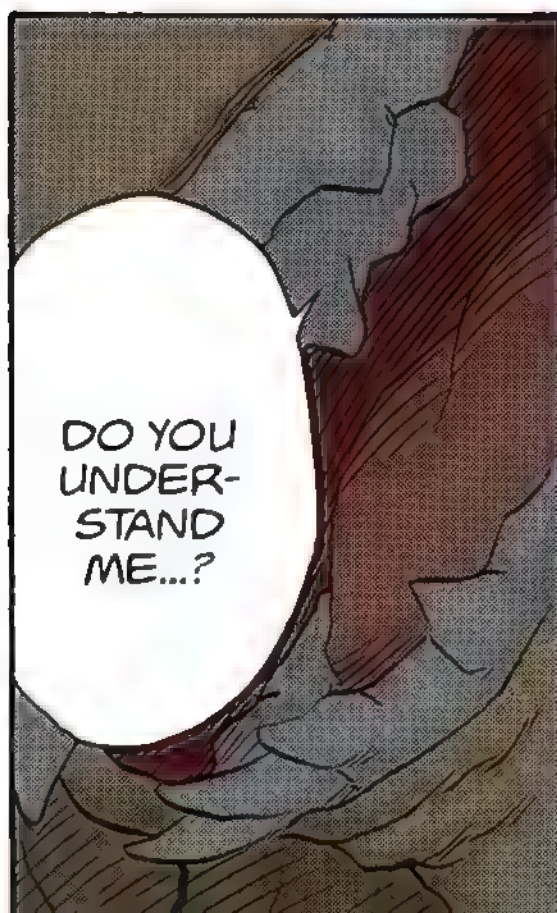
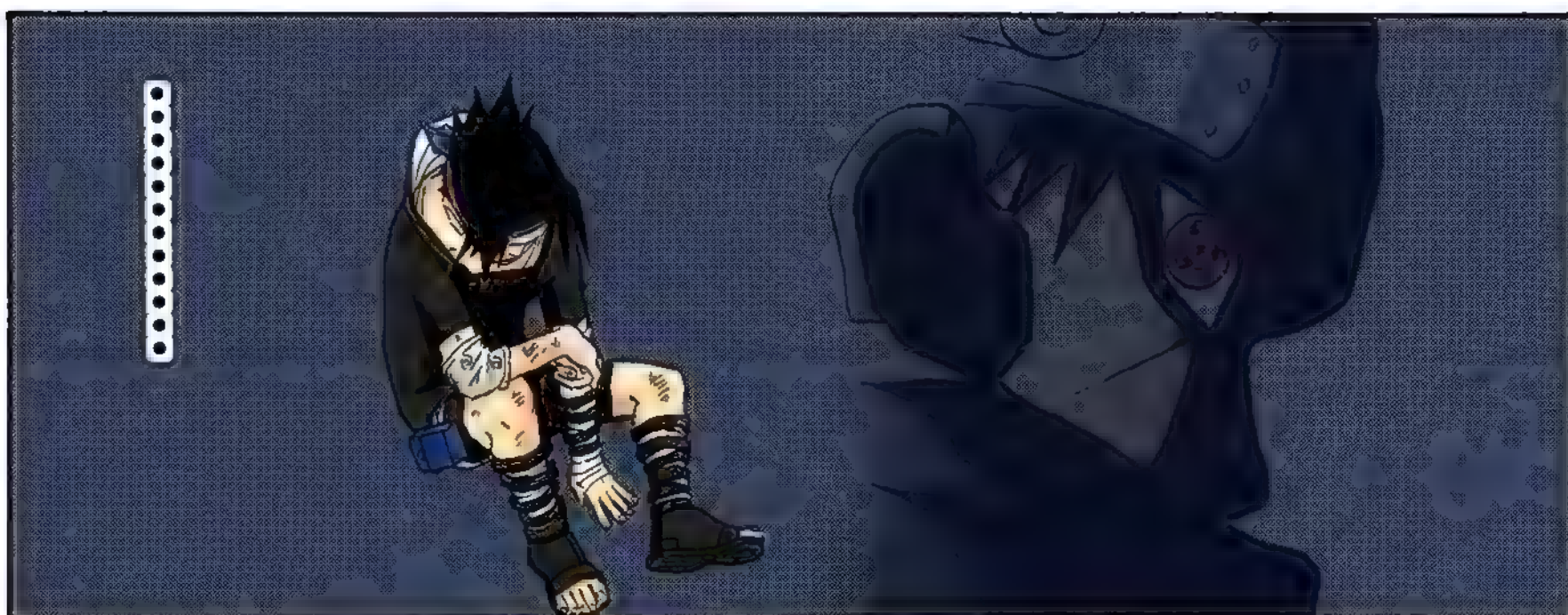
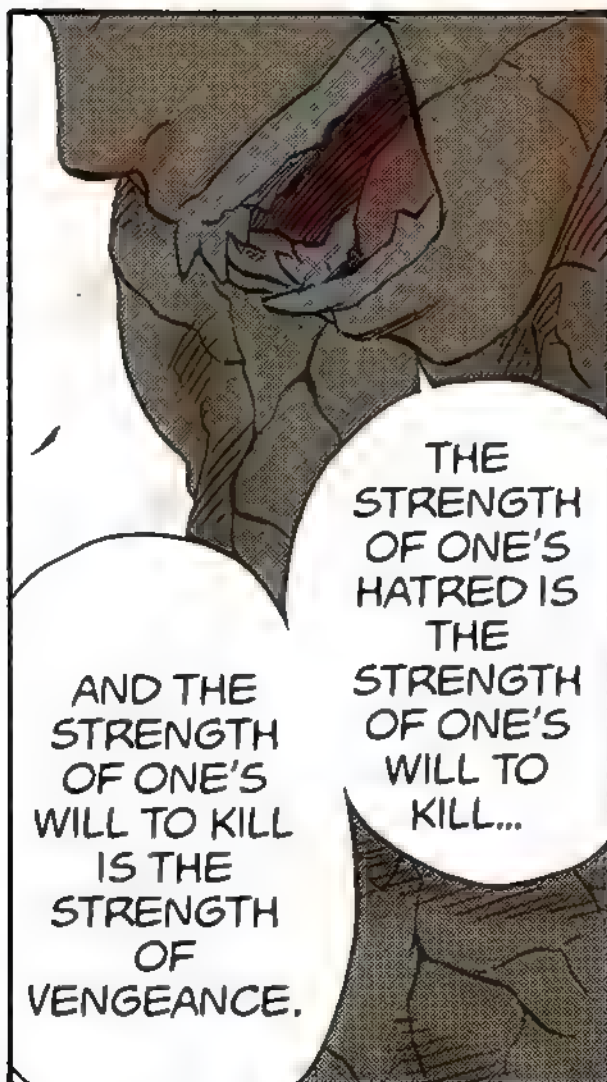
...

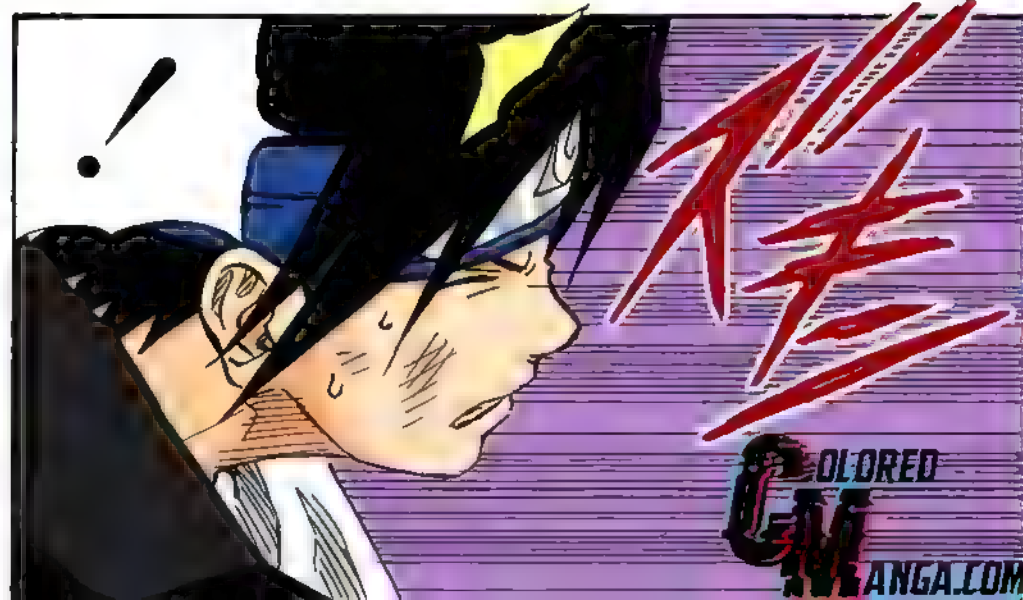


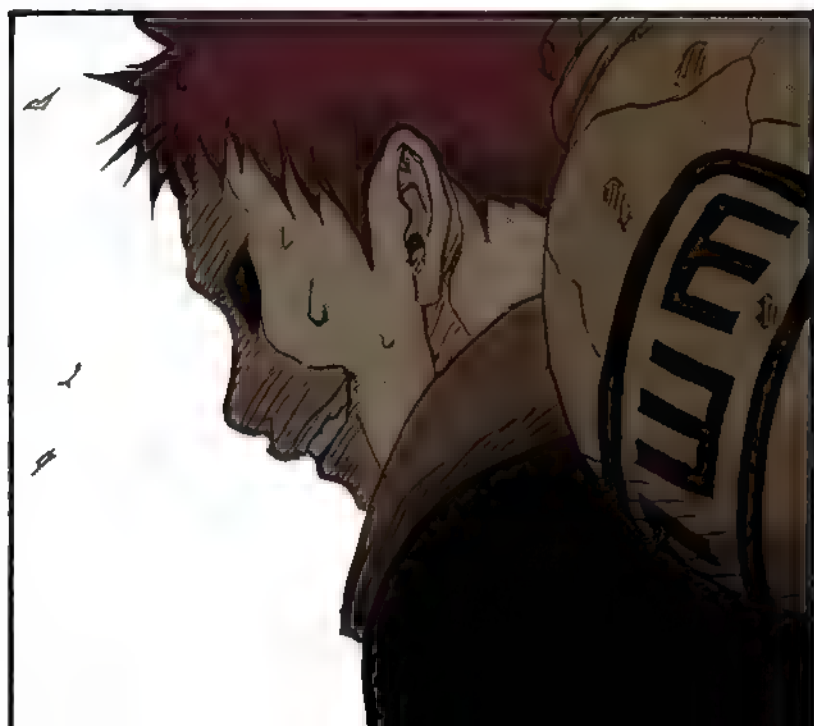
NOT ONLY
WILL THE
JUTSU NOT
WORK, BUT
YOUR CHAKRA
WILL BE
DRAINED
TO ZERO...

IF YOU TRY
TO FORCIBLY
INITIATE THE
JUTSU...

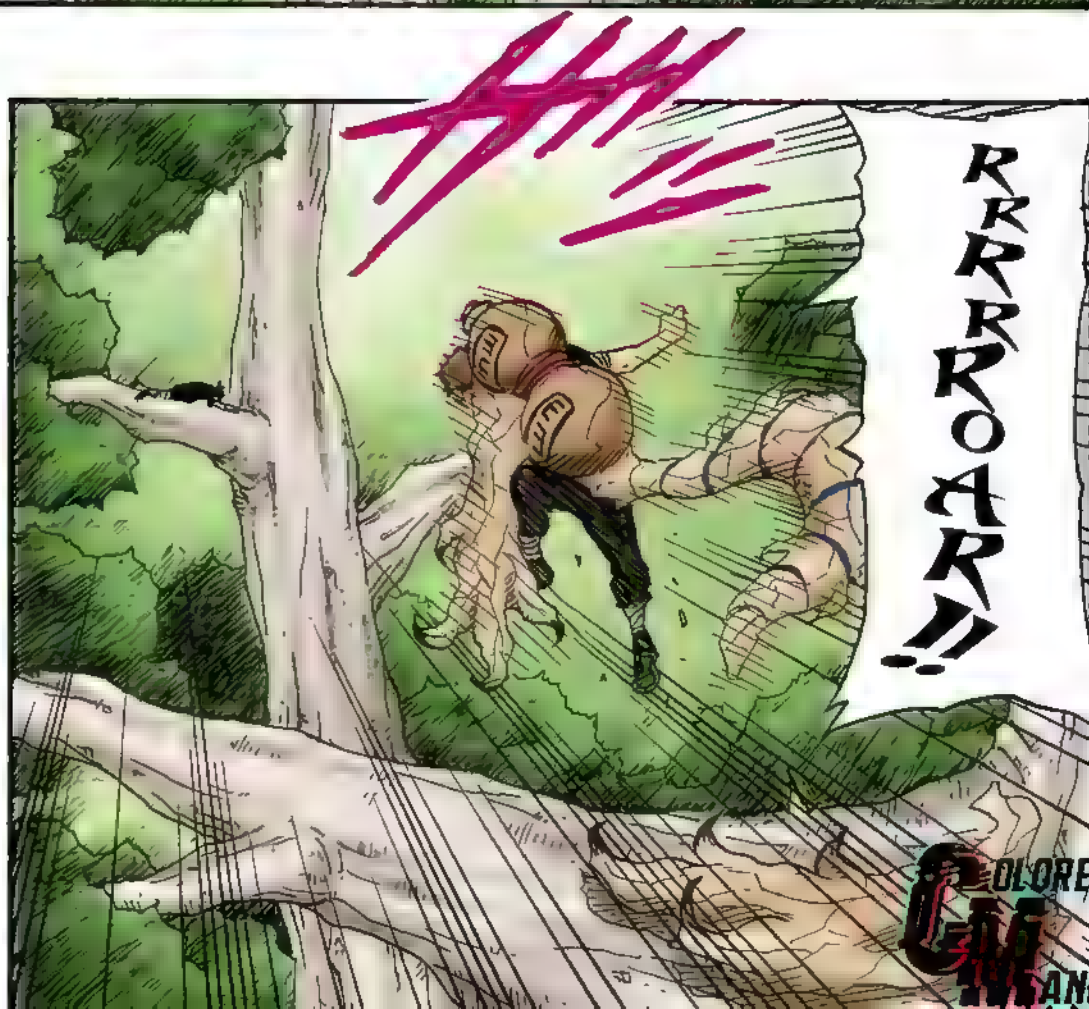
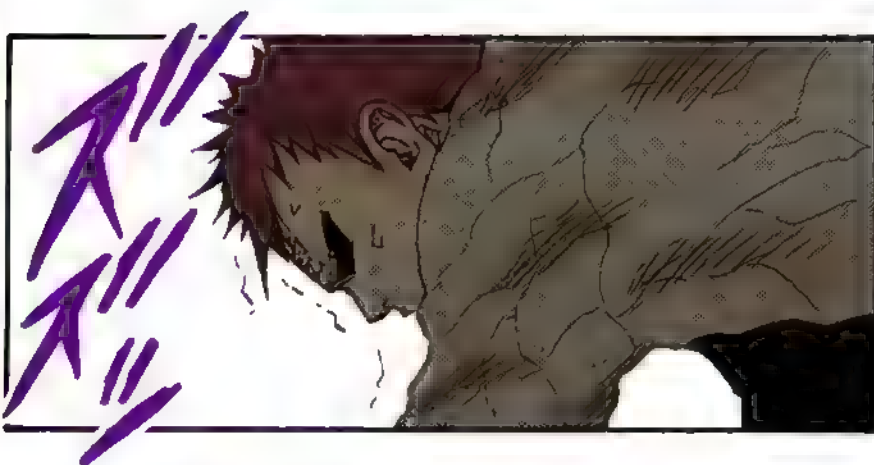
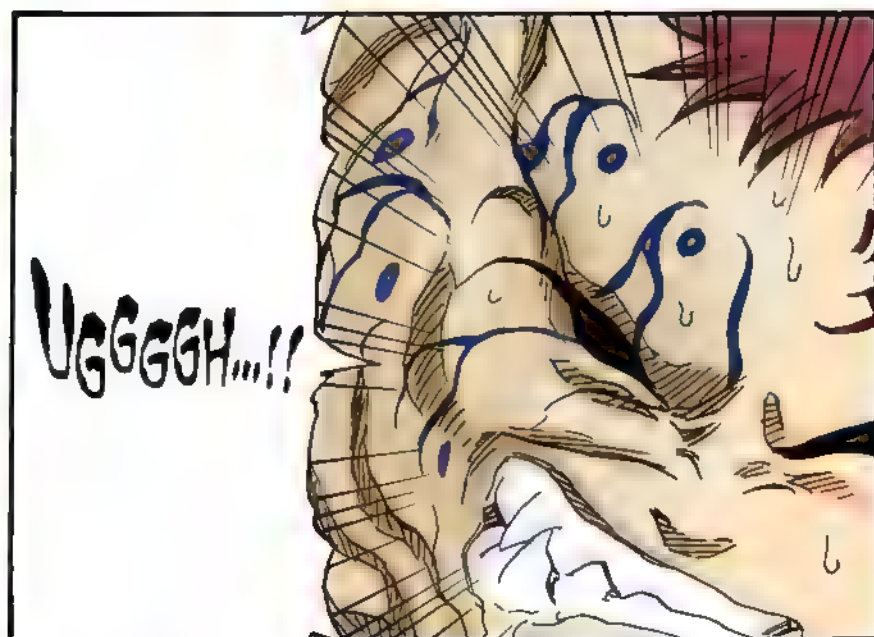




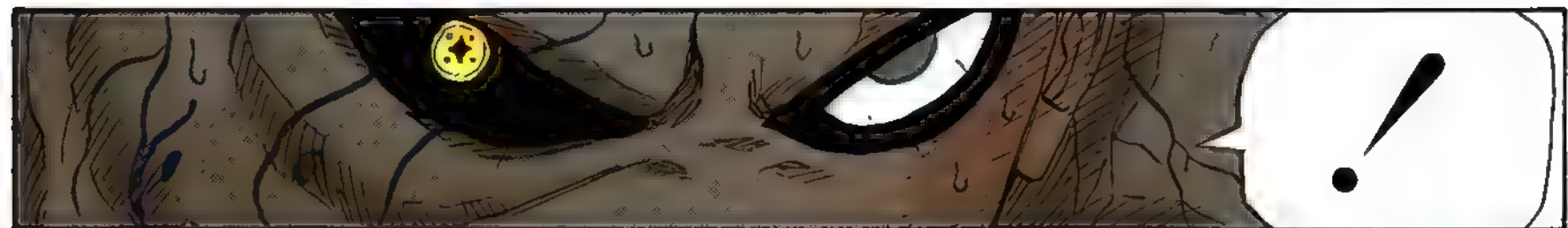
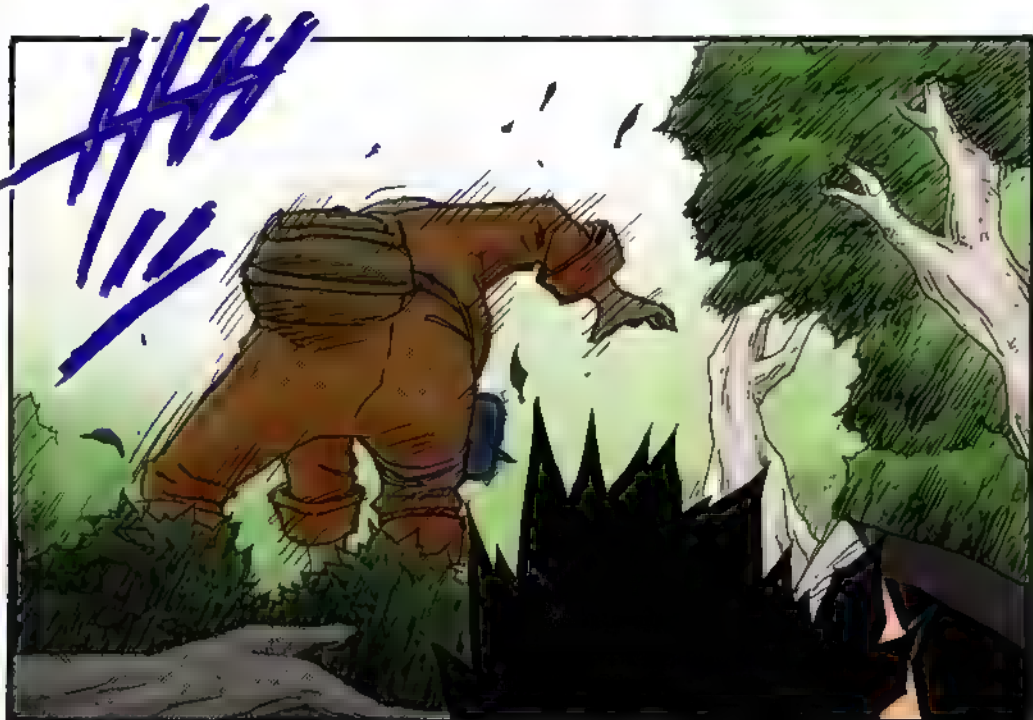
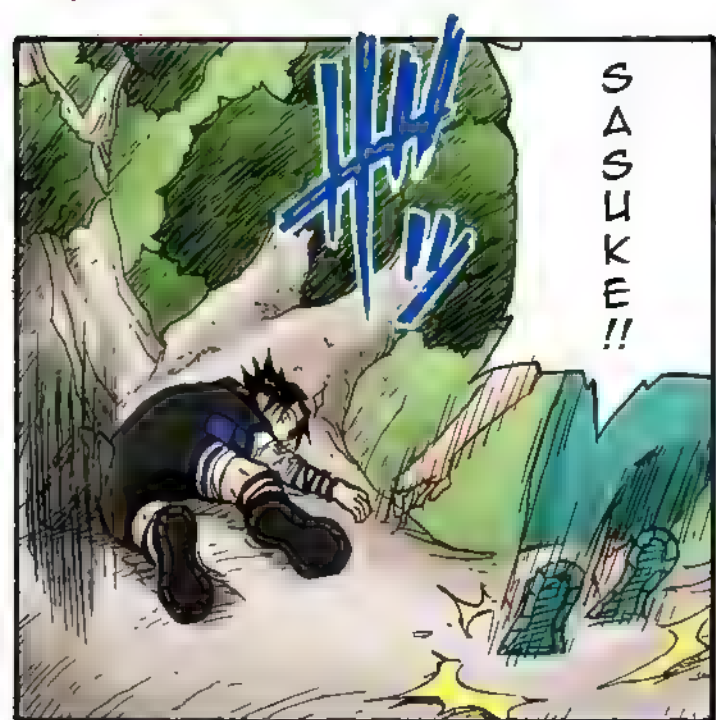
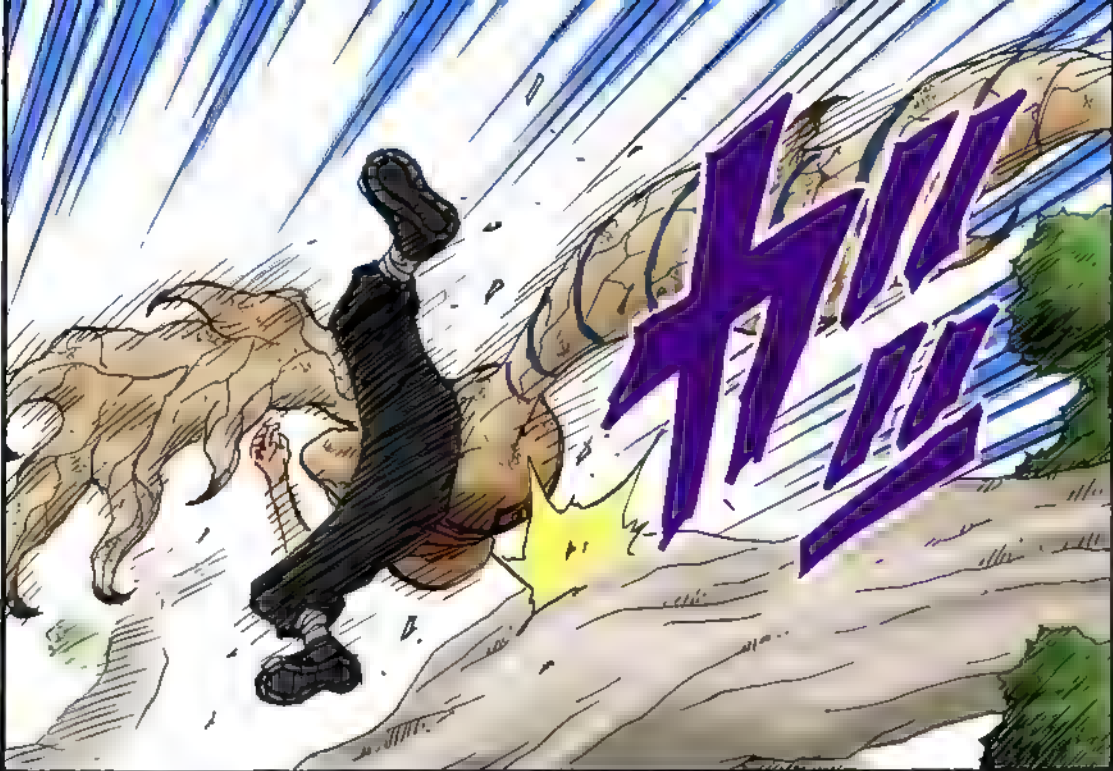
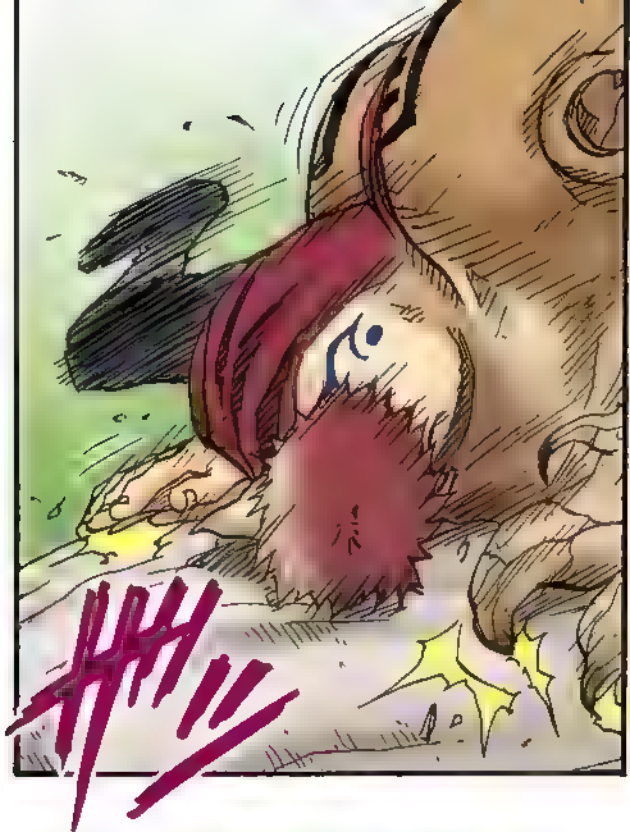








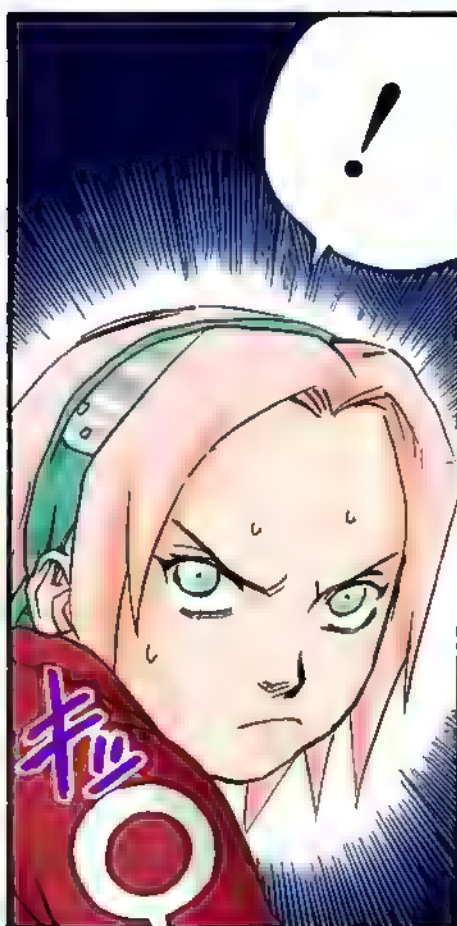


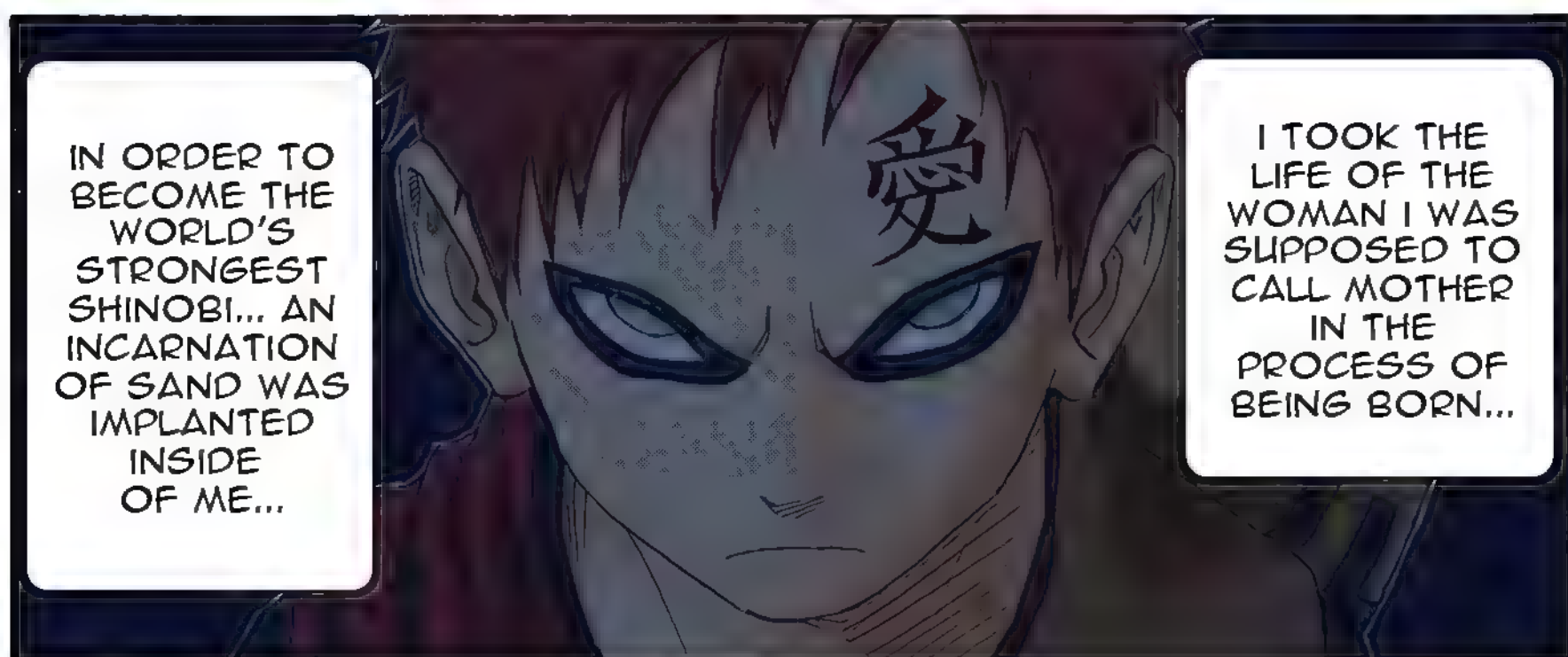
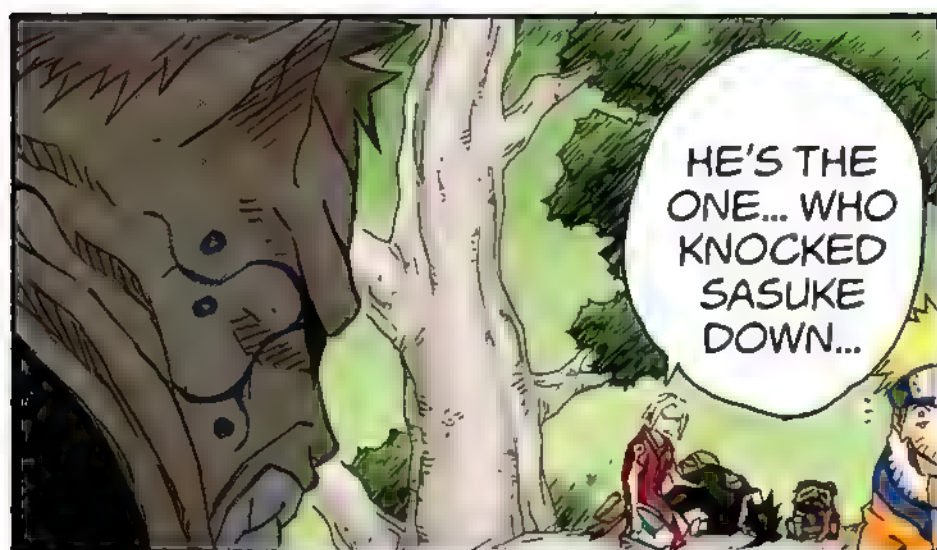


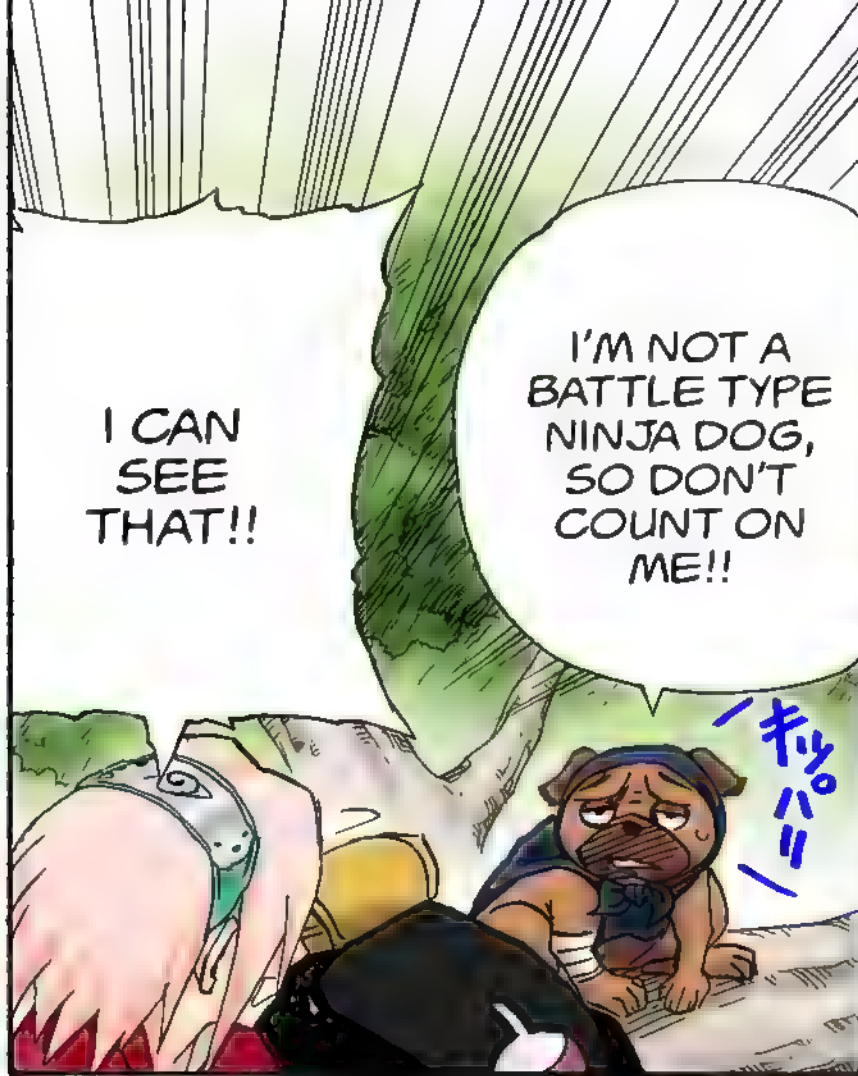
ナンバー

129 : TO HURT!!









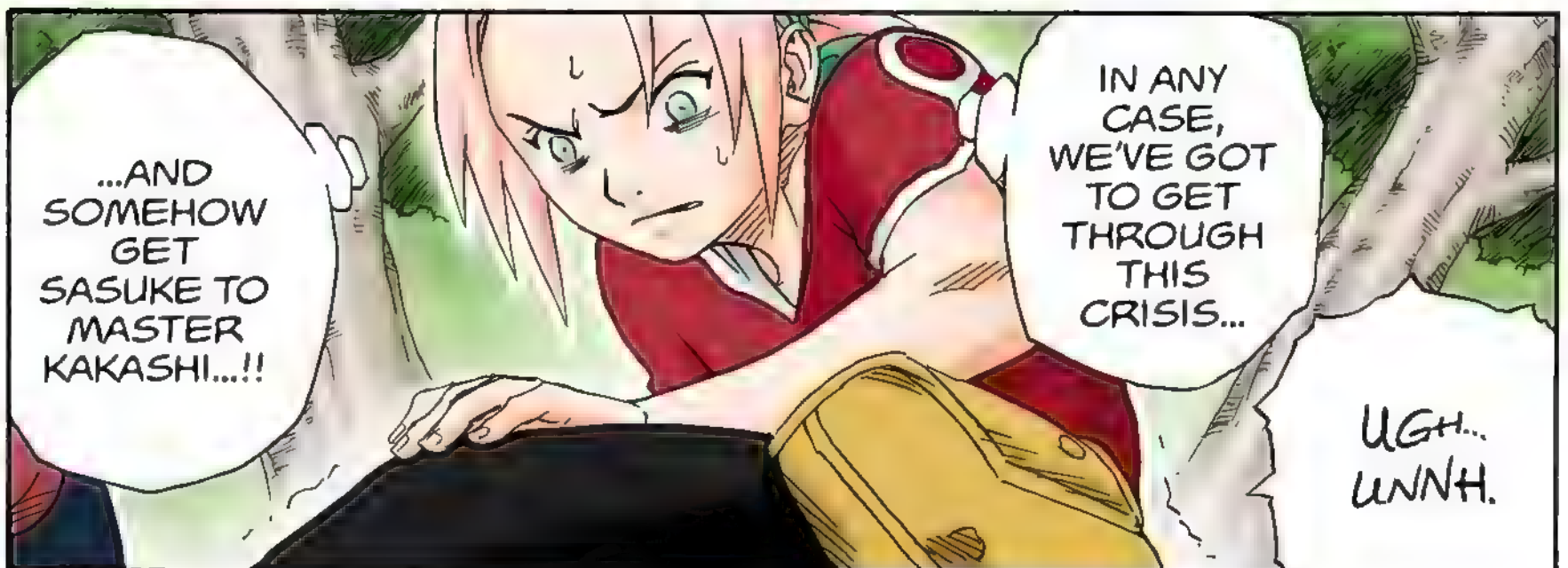
I CAN
SEE
THAT!!

I'M NOT A
BATTLE TYPE
NINJA DOG,
SO DON'T
COUNT ON
ME!!

キッパッ



SO
THAT'S
THAT
"MON-
STER,"
EH...



...AND
SOMEHOW
GET
SASUKE TO
MASTER
KAKASHI...!!

IN ANY
CASE,
WE'VE GOT
TO GET
THROUGH
THIS
CRISIS...

UGH...
UNNH.



...



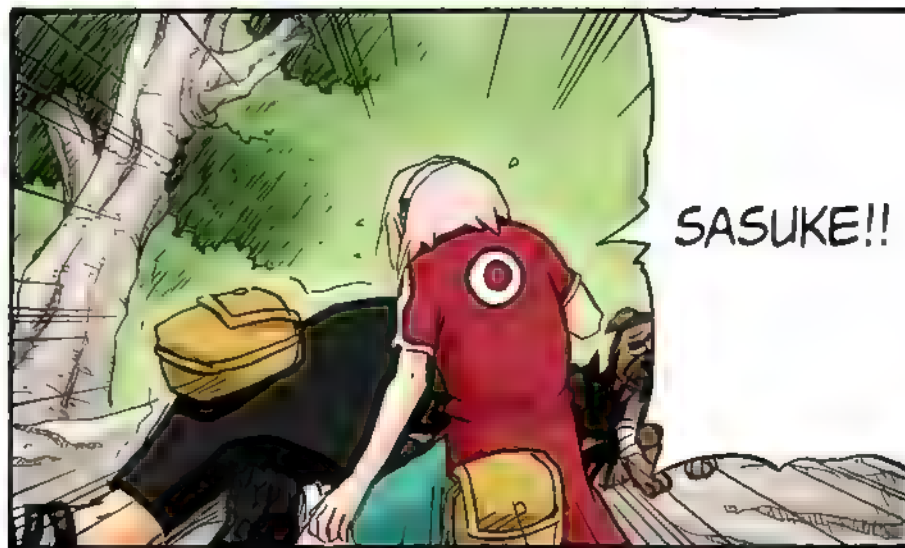
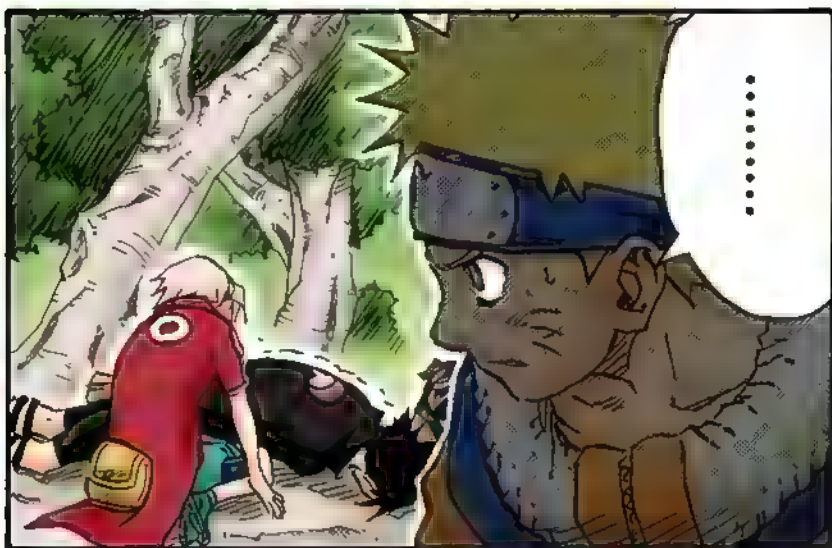
...ESPECIALLY
FOR YOU...

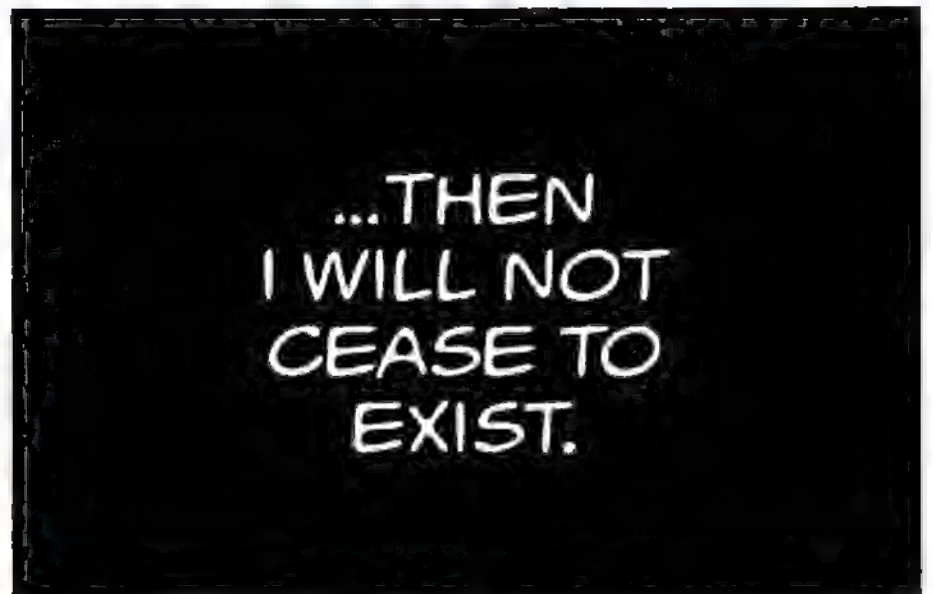
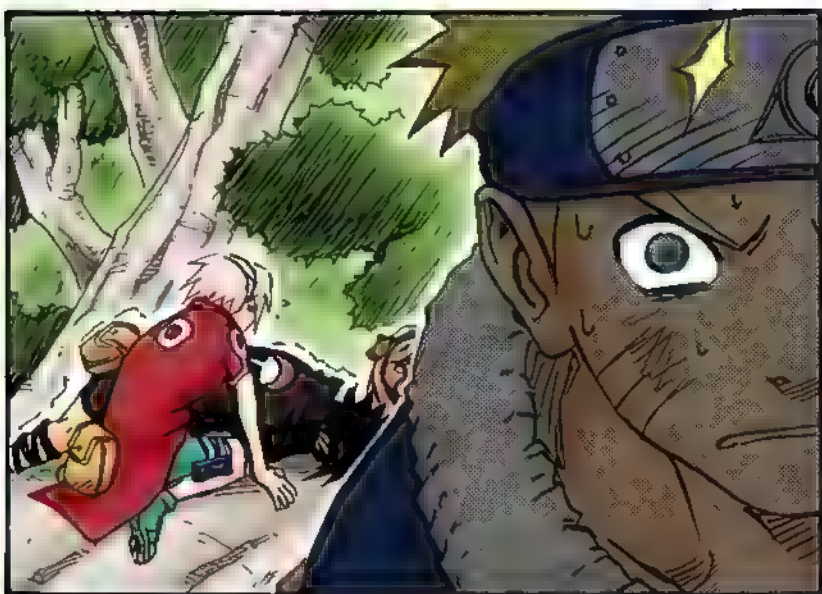
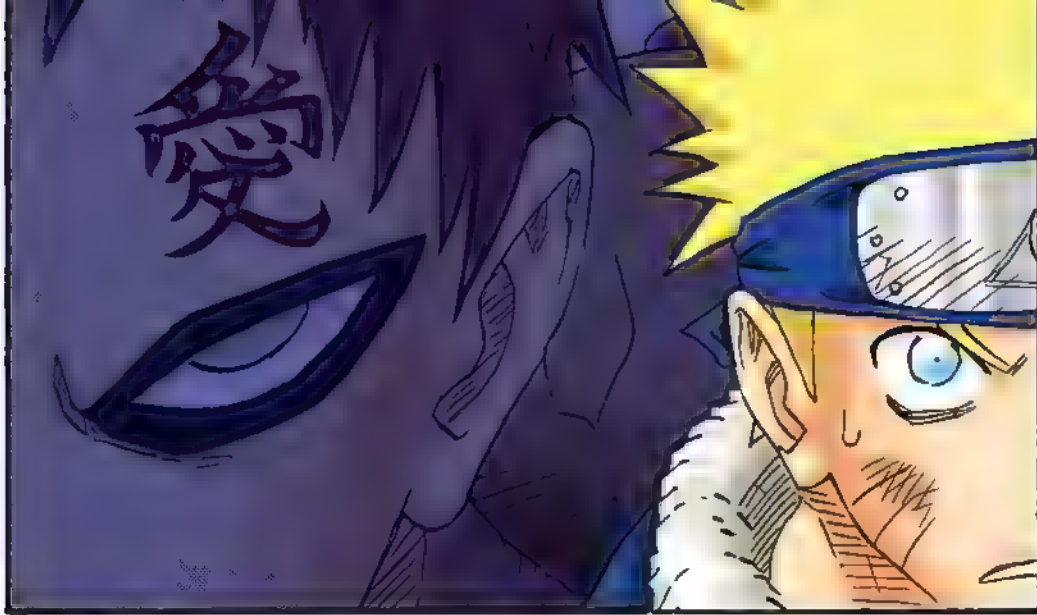
EVEN IF YOU
SURVIVE IT...
I GUARANTEE
THAT IT
WON'T BE
GOOD FOR
YOU.

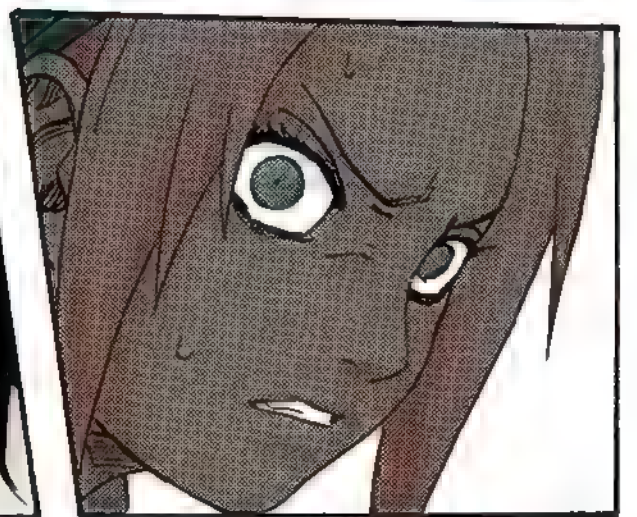
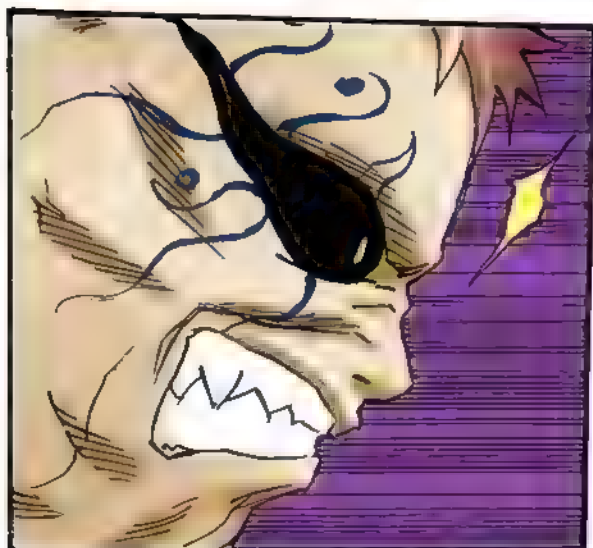
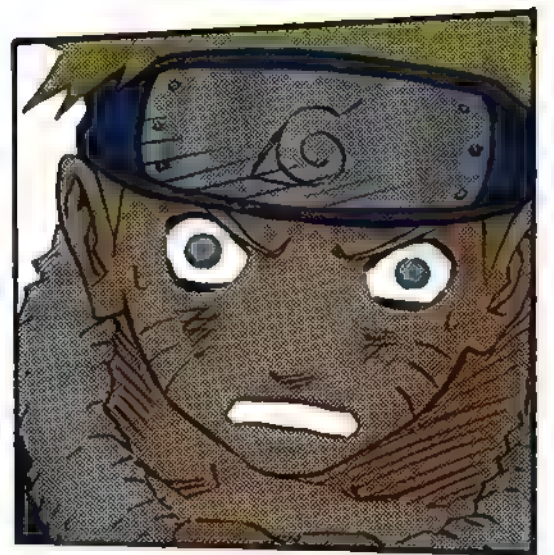
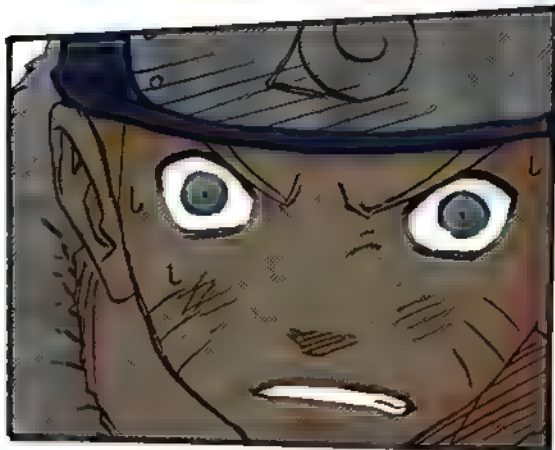
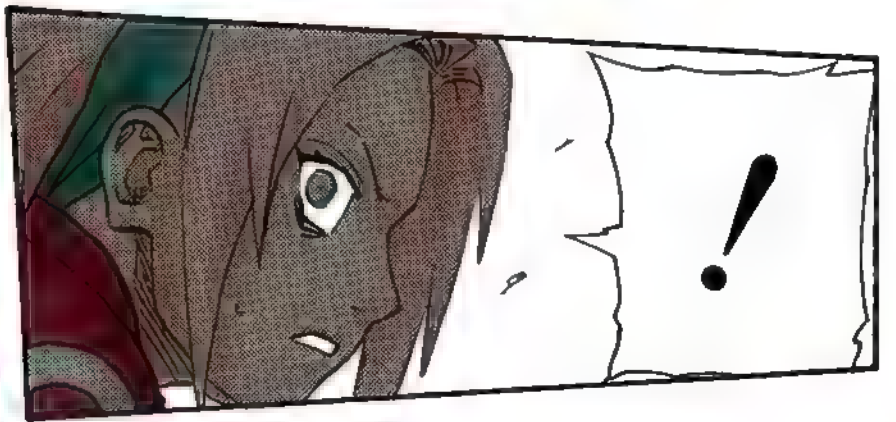
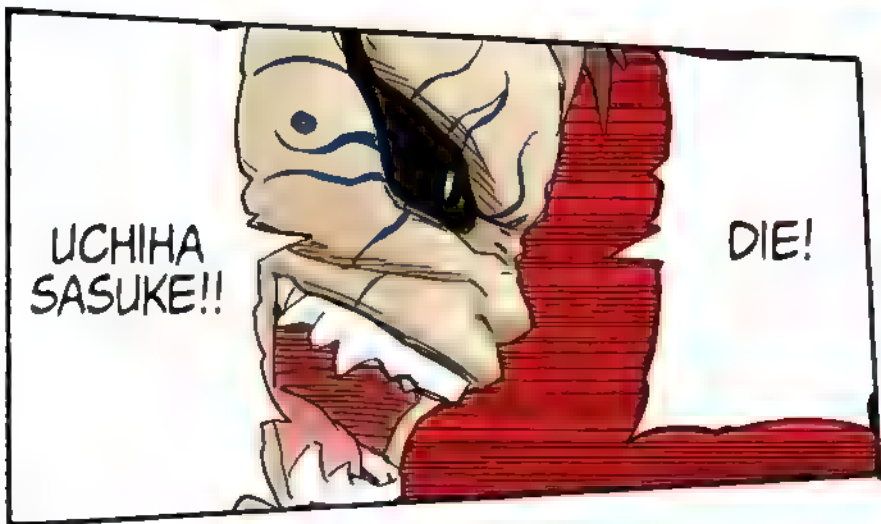
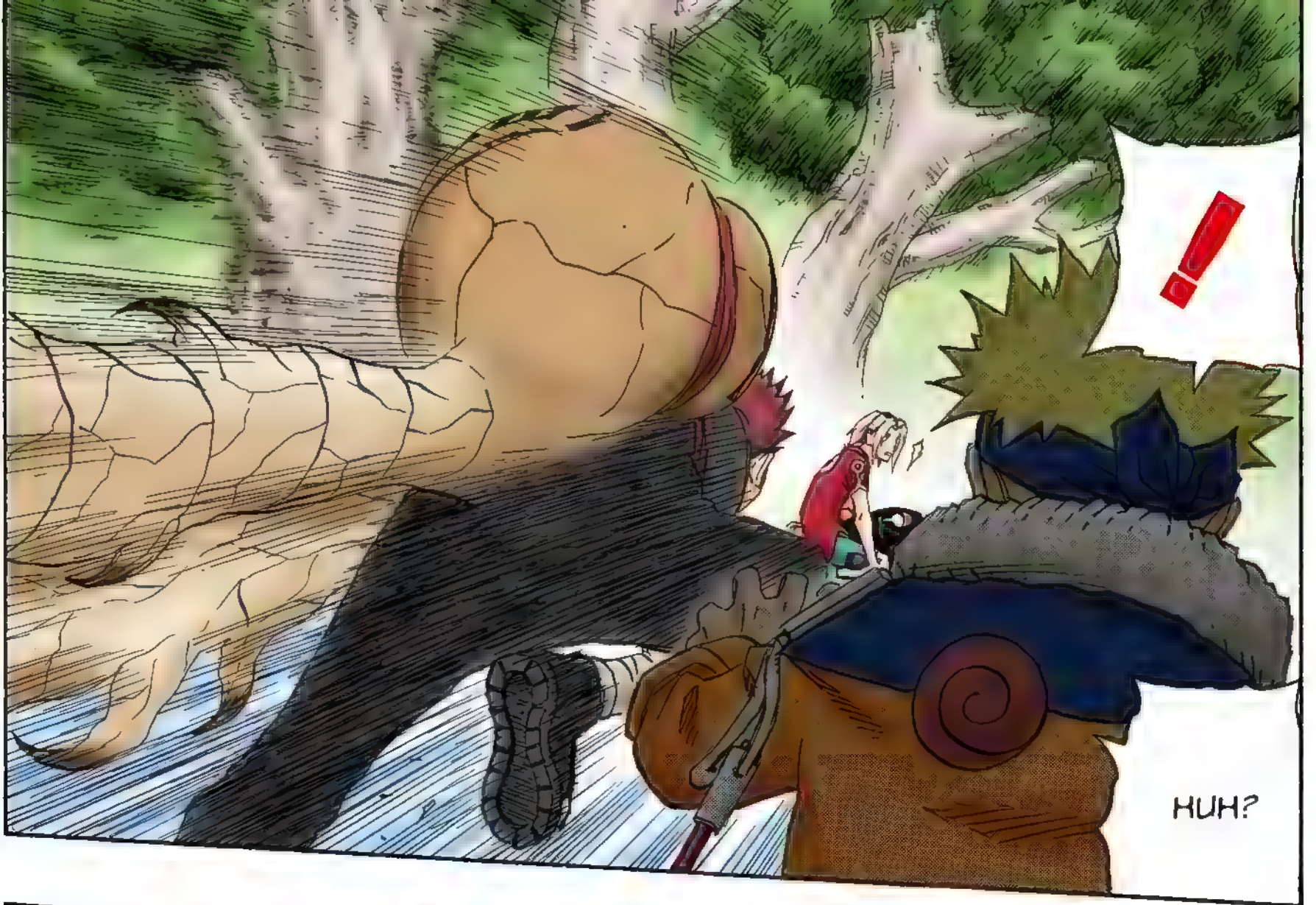
...YOU
MEAN
THE
CURSE
MARK...?

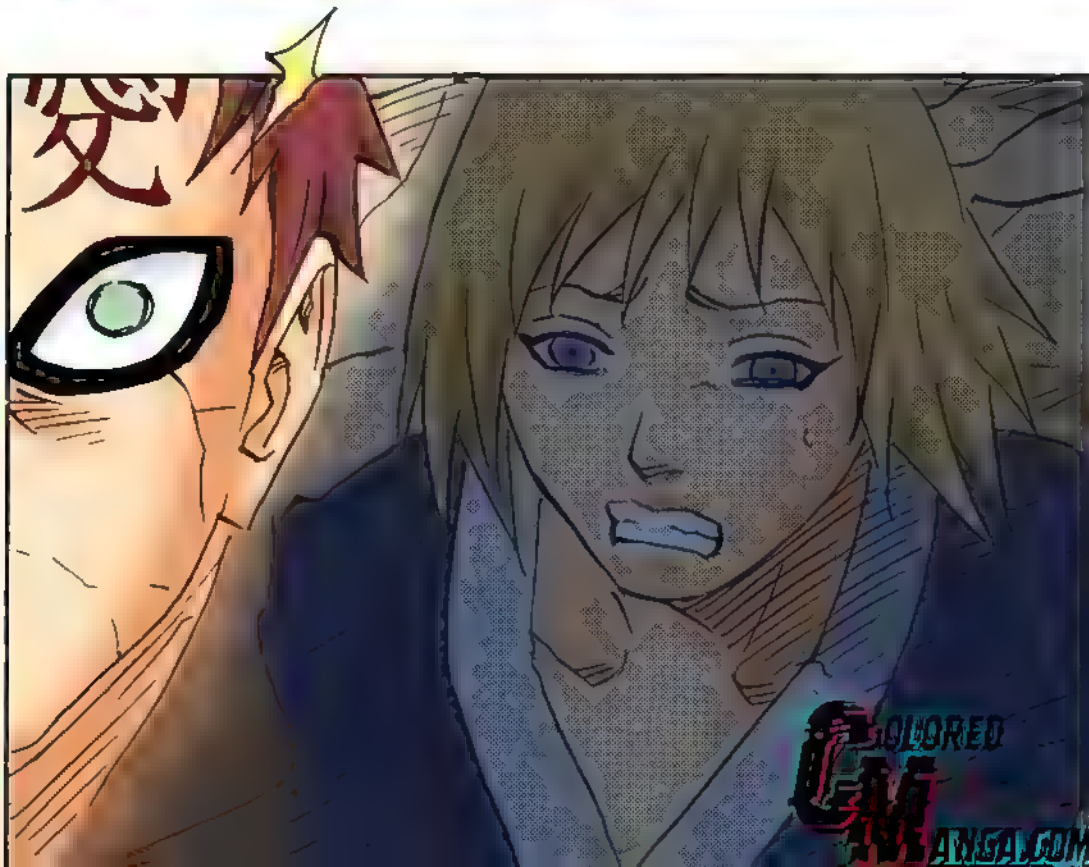
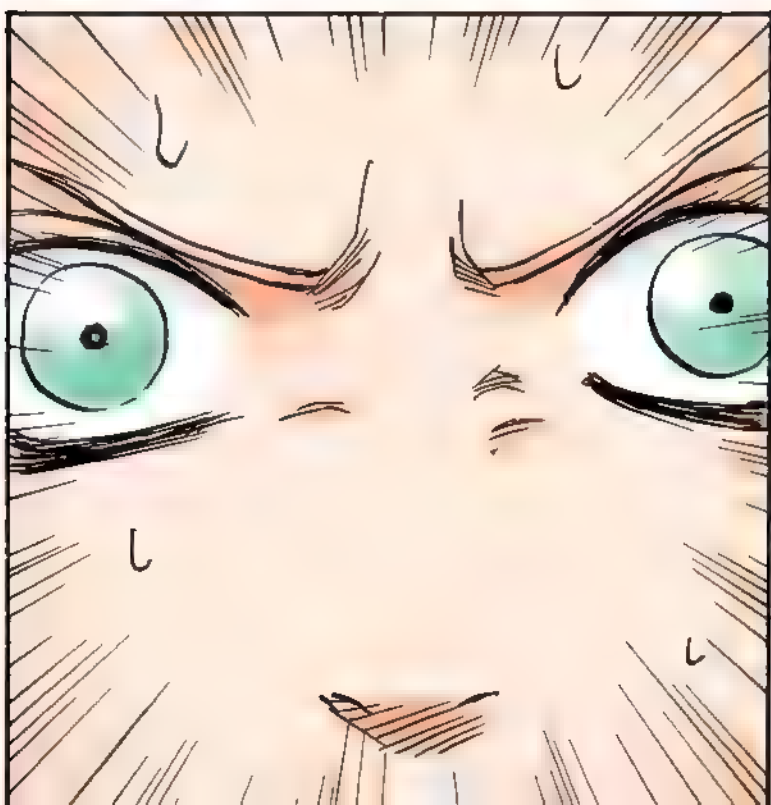
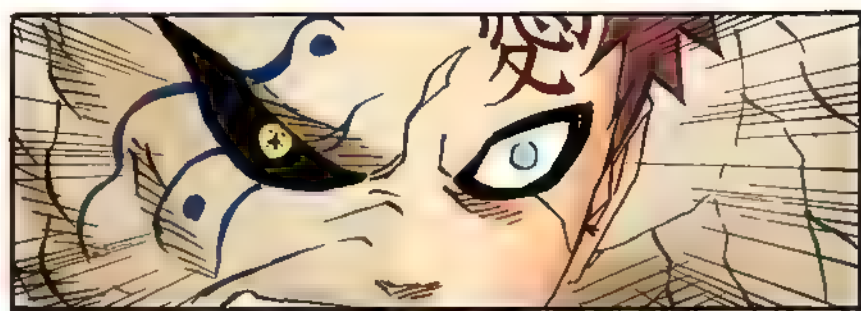
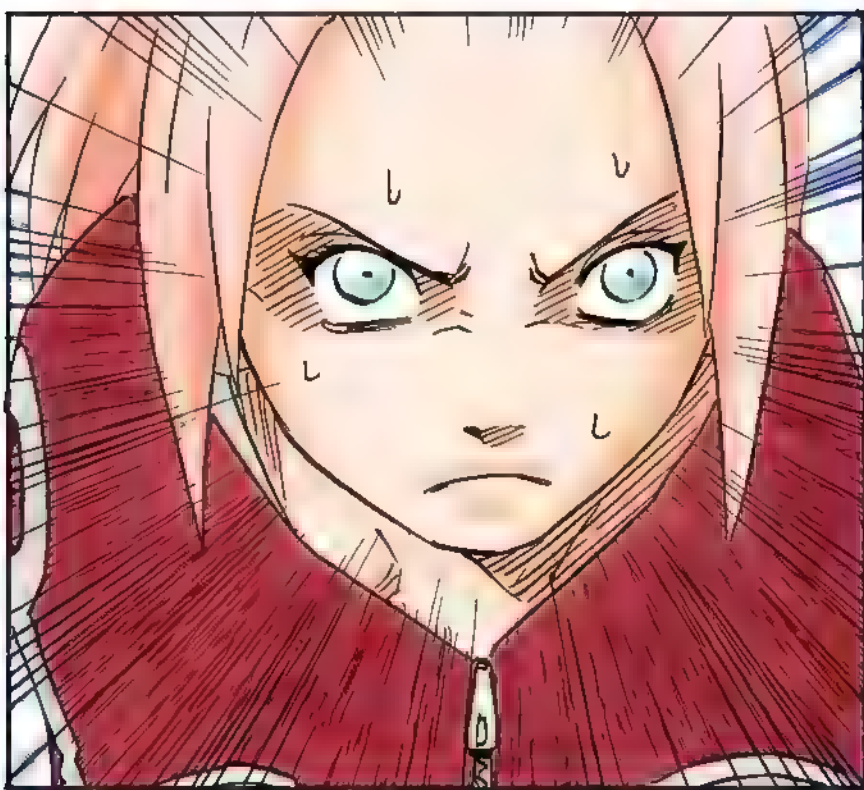


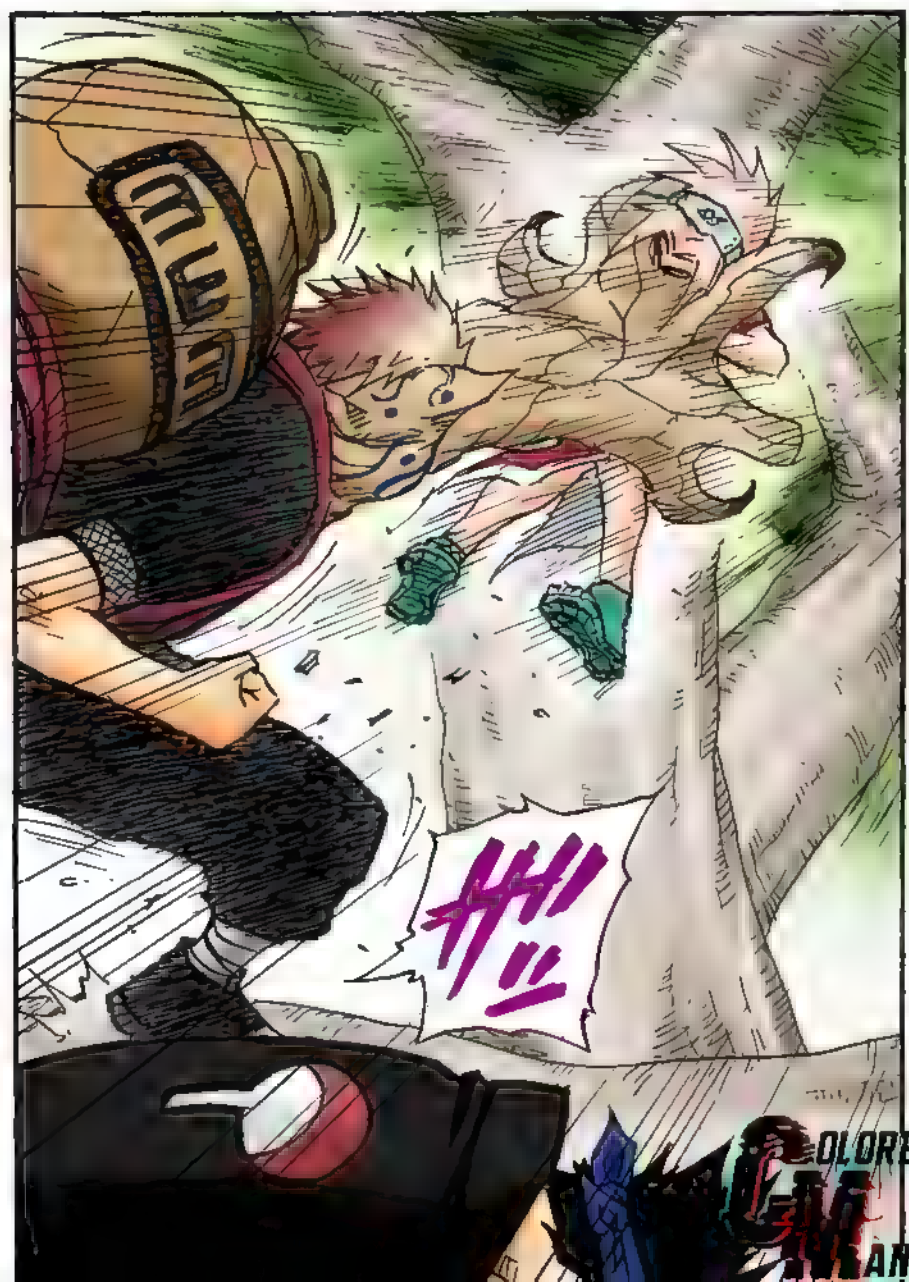
UGH...
UNNH...

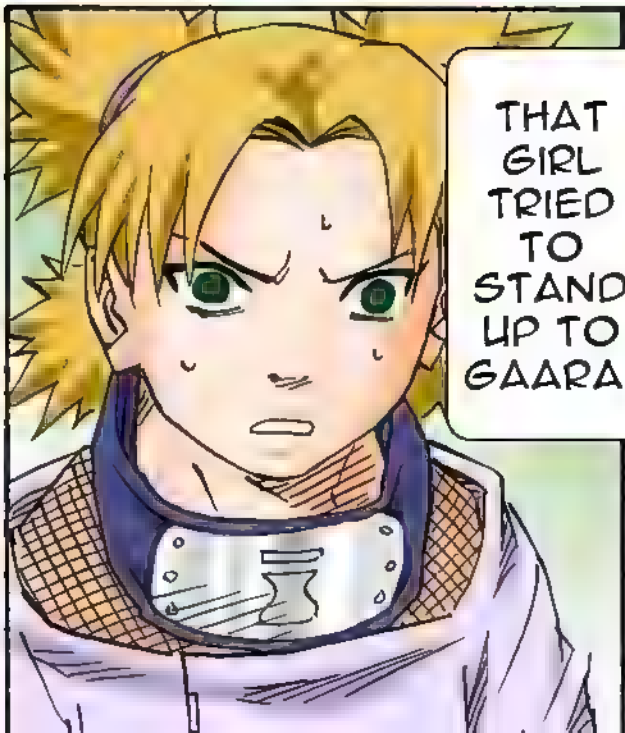
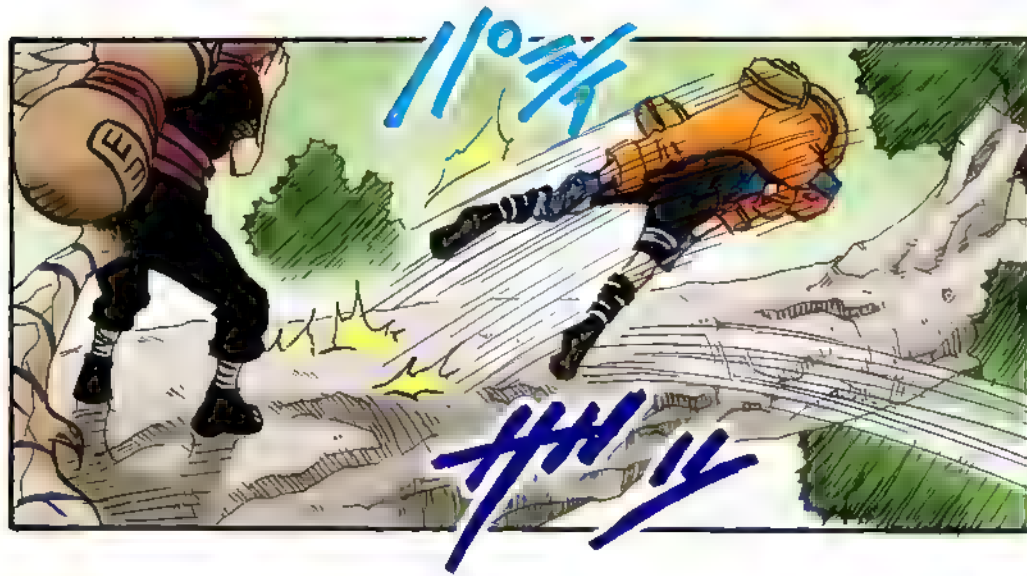
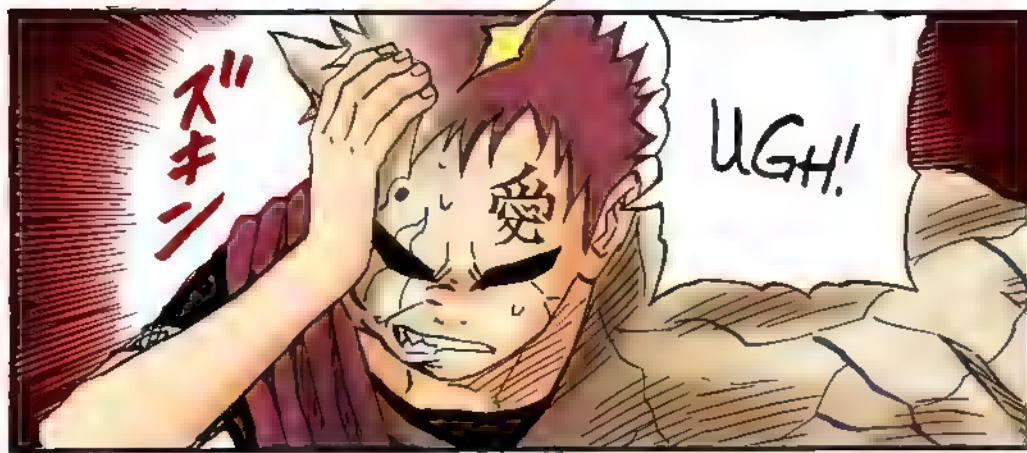
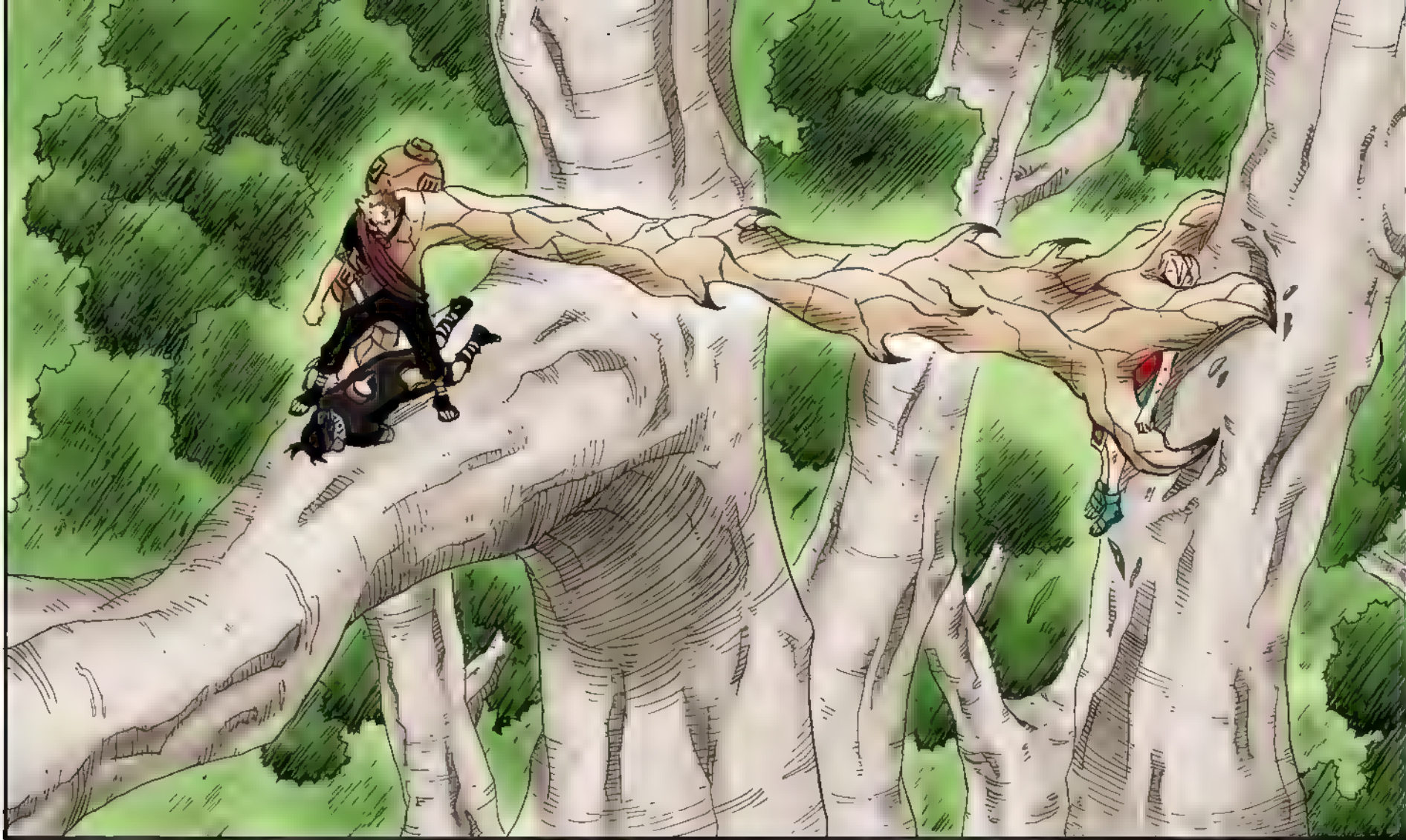








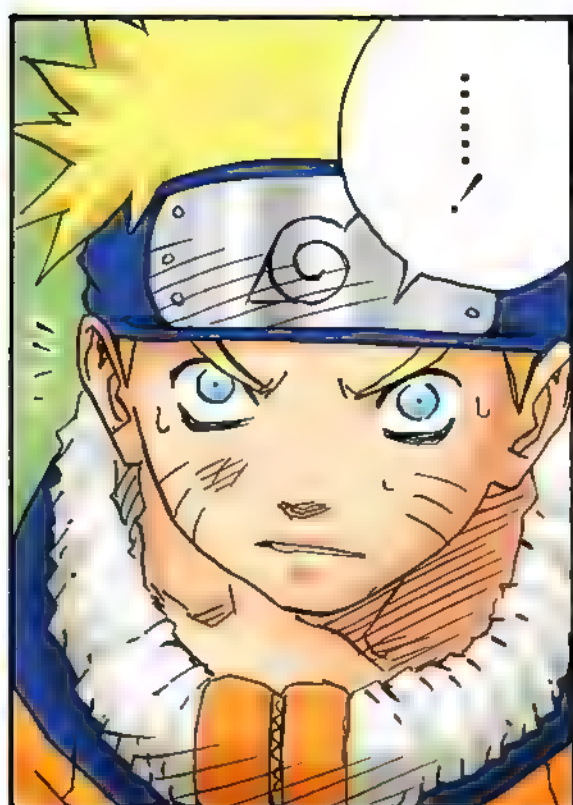
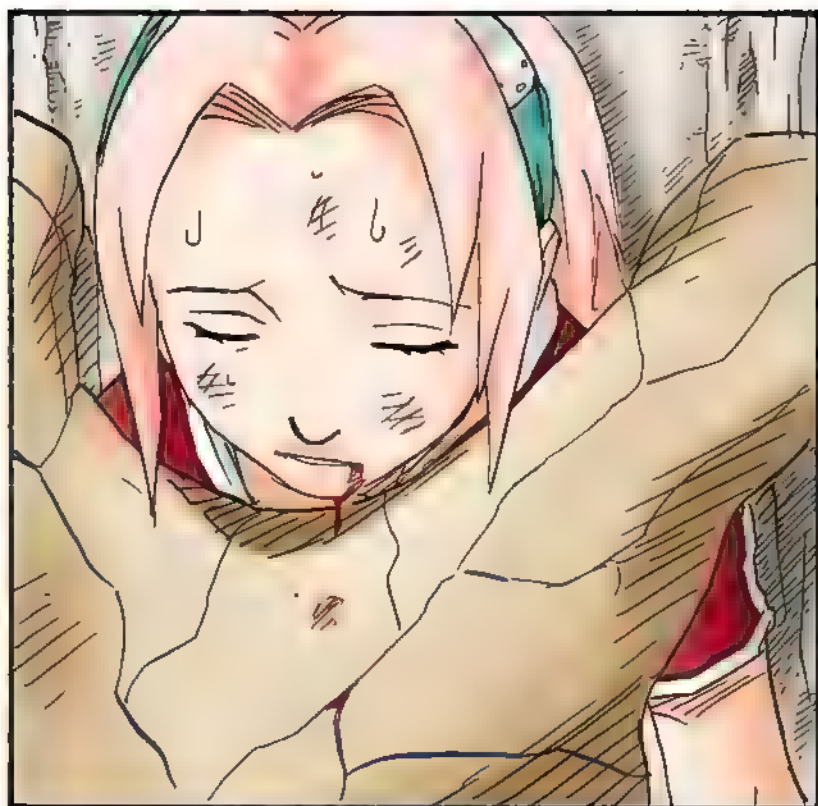


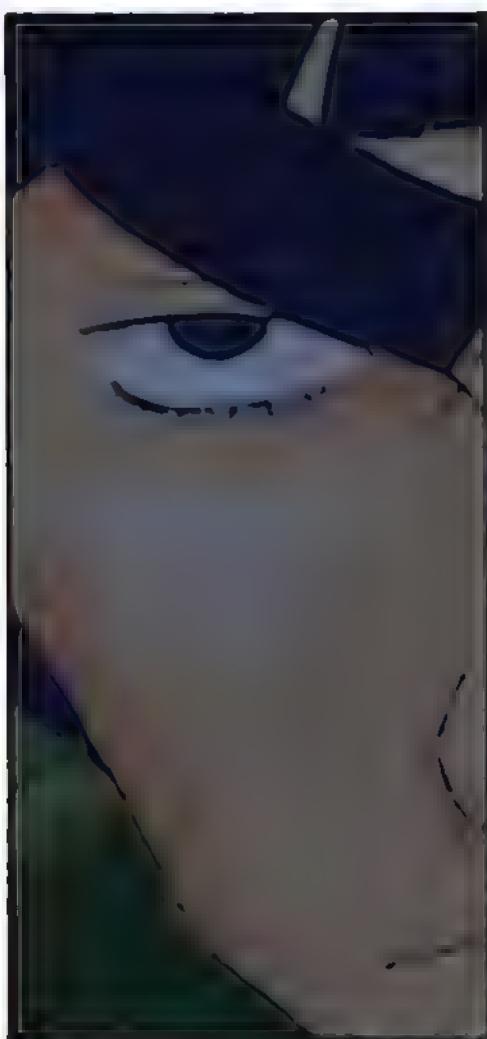
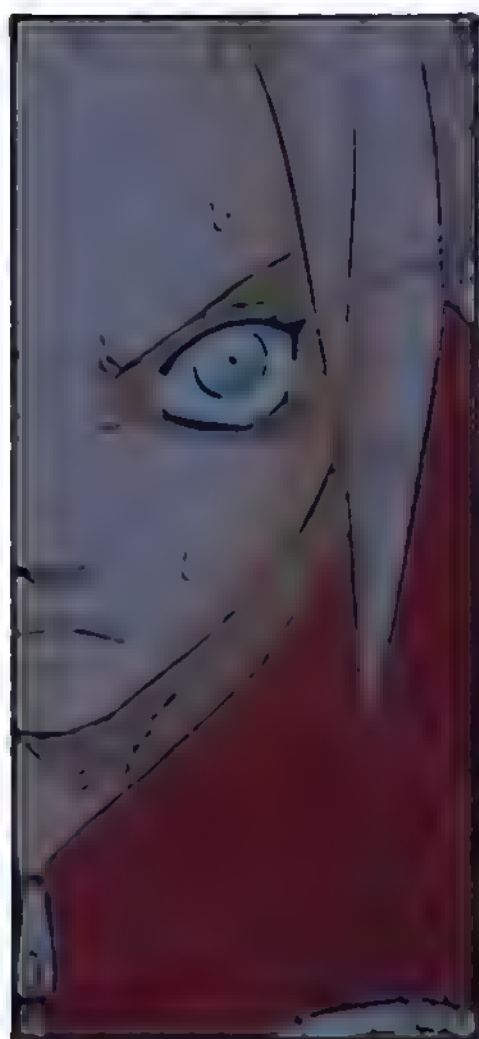


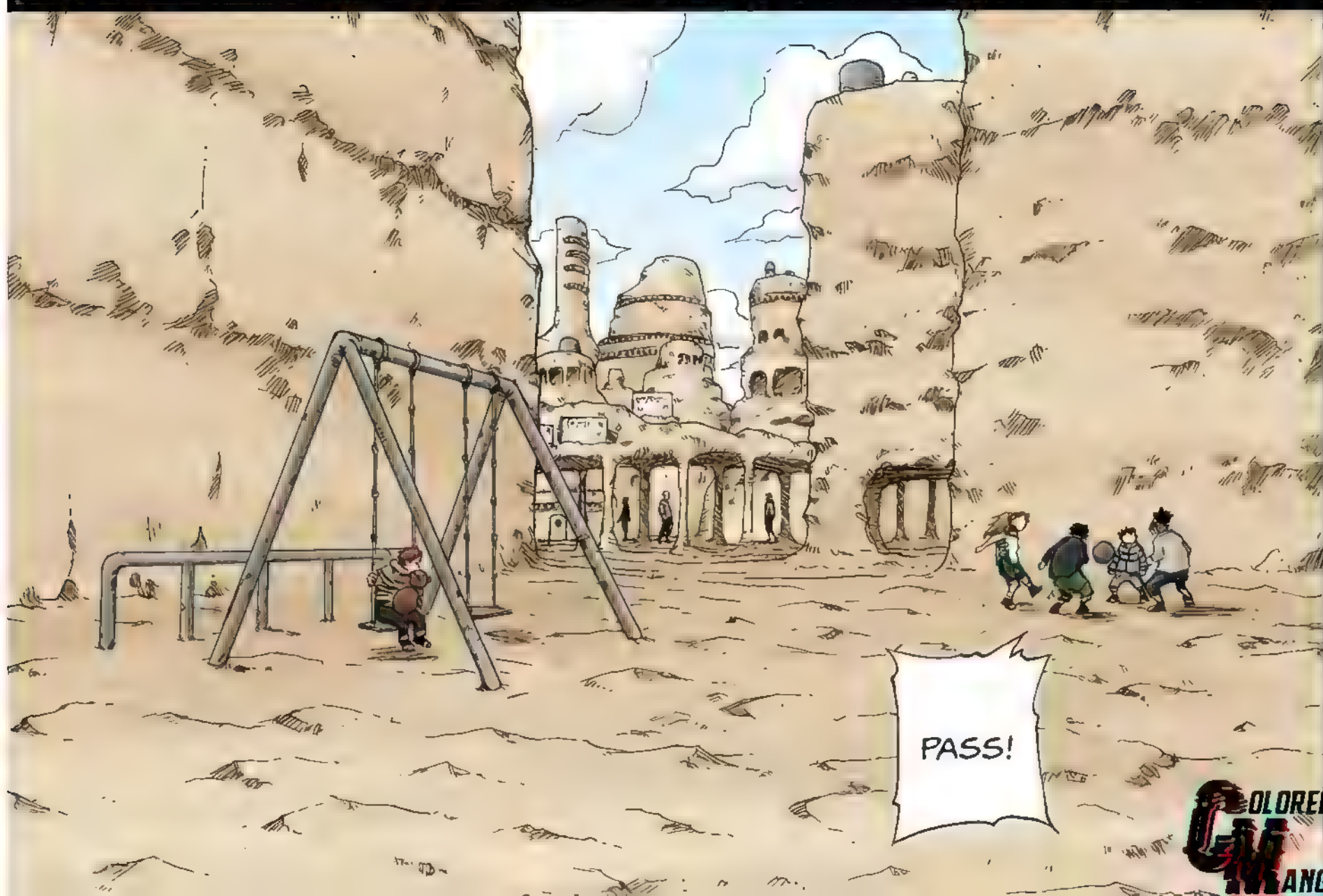
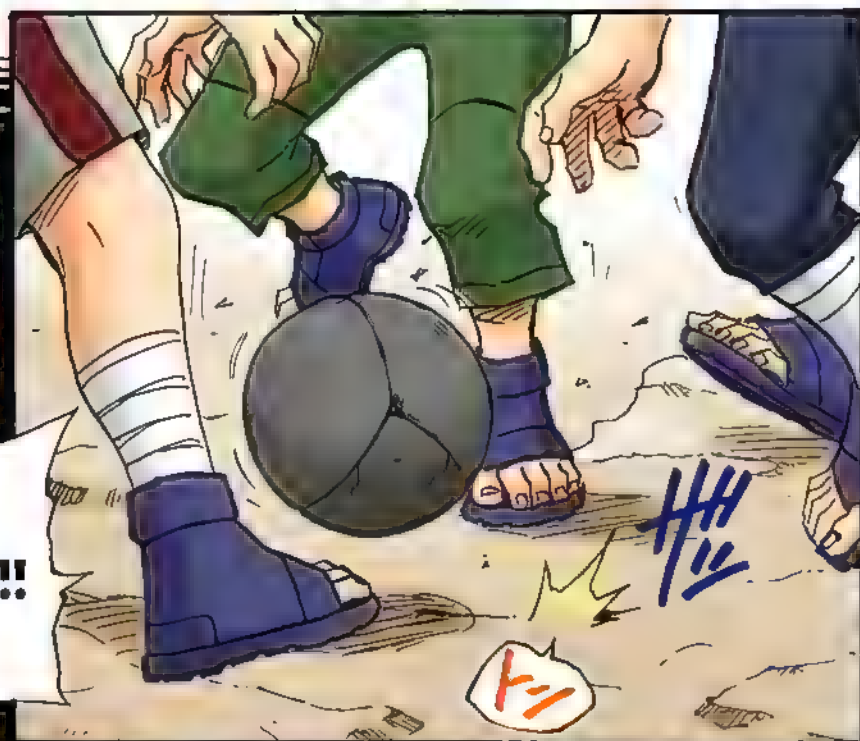
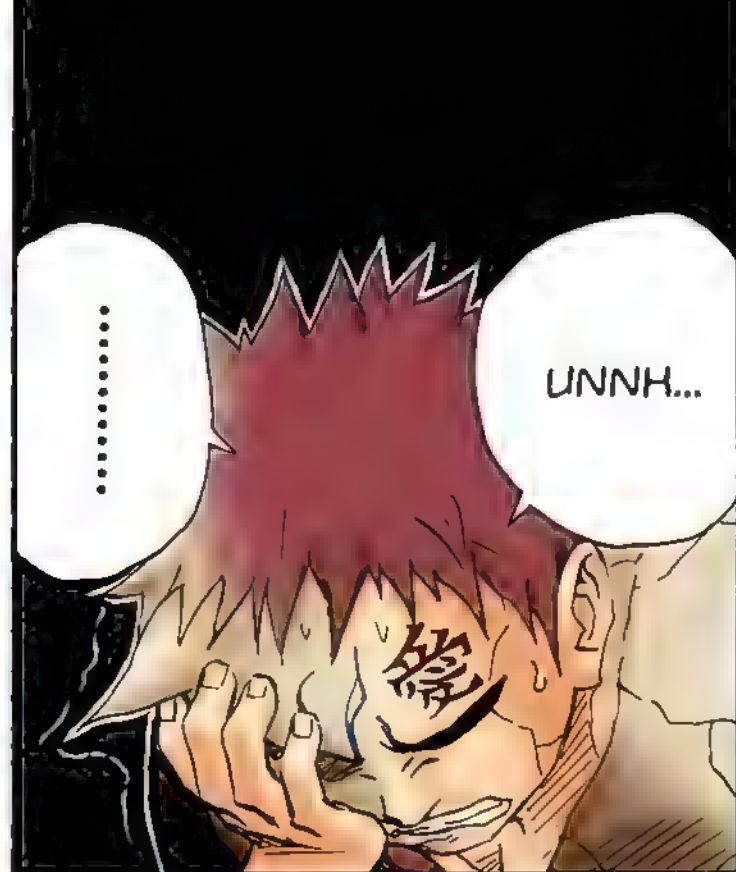
THAT
GIRL
TRIED
TO
STAND
UP TO
GAARA!

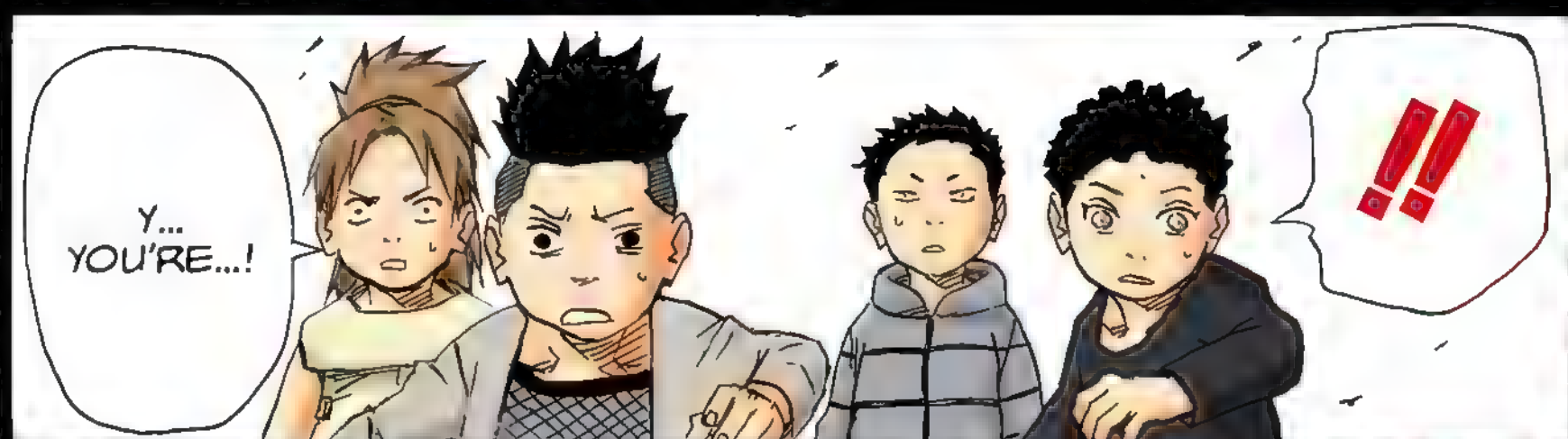
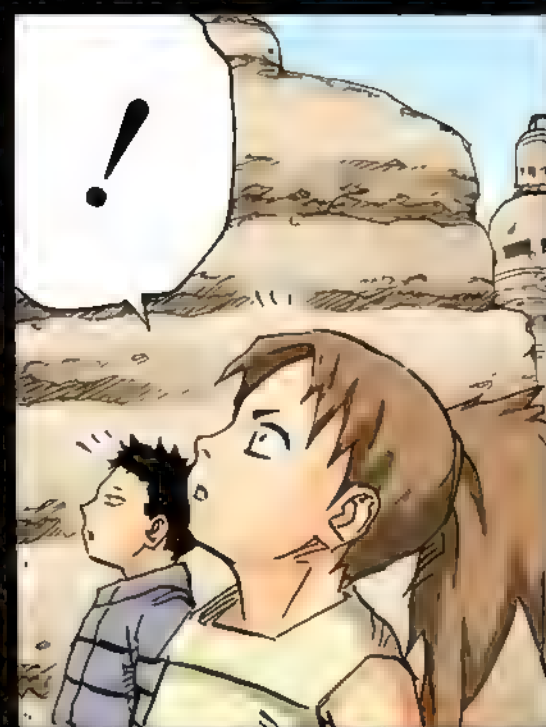
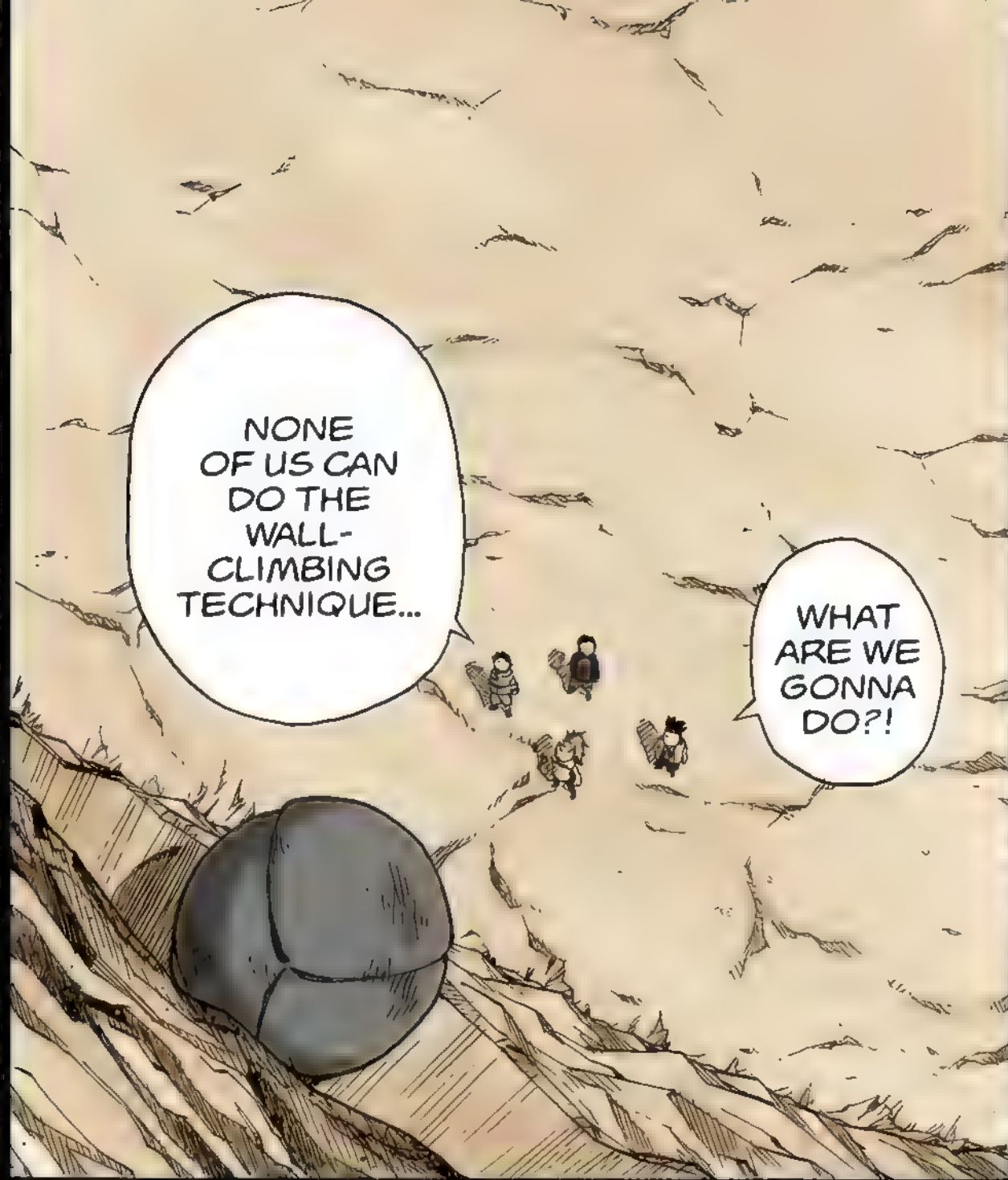


SAKURA!!



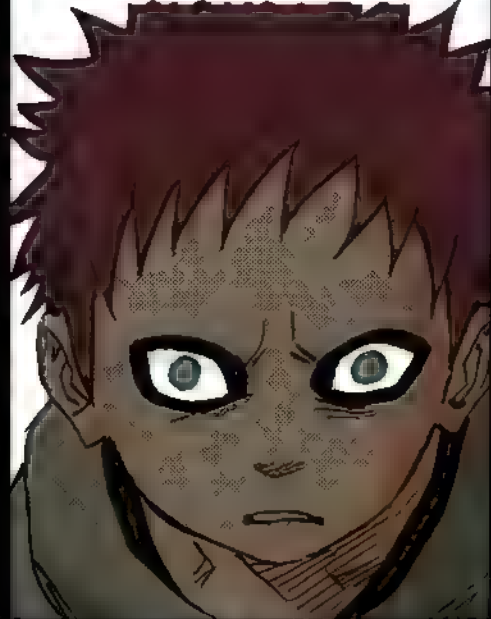






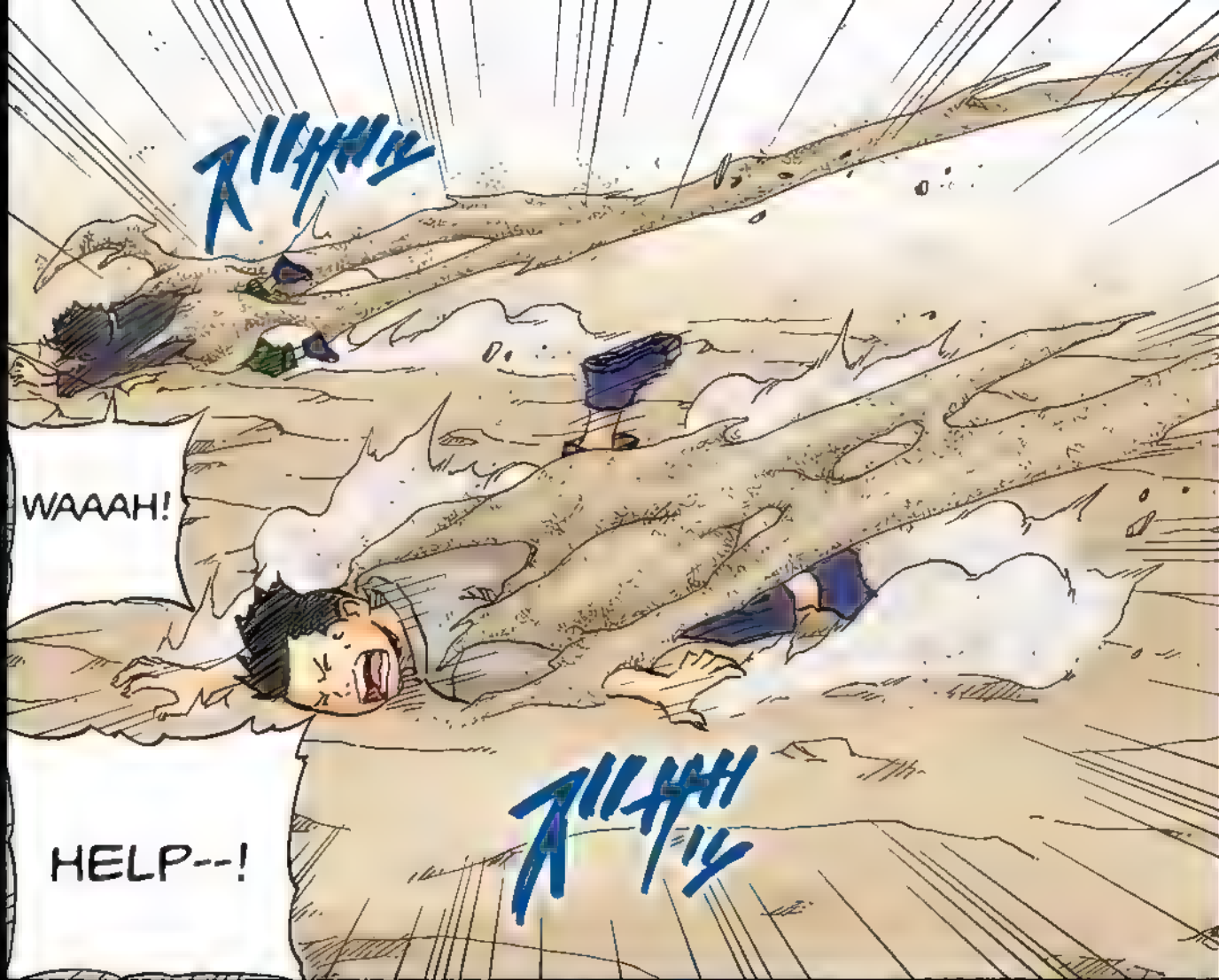


I DON'T
WANT TO
BE ALONE
ANYMORE...



WAAAH!

HELP--!



UGH!!



NO!

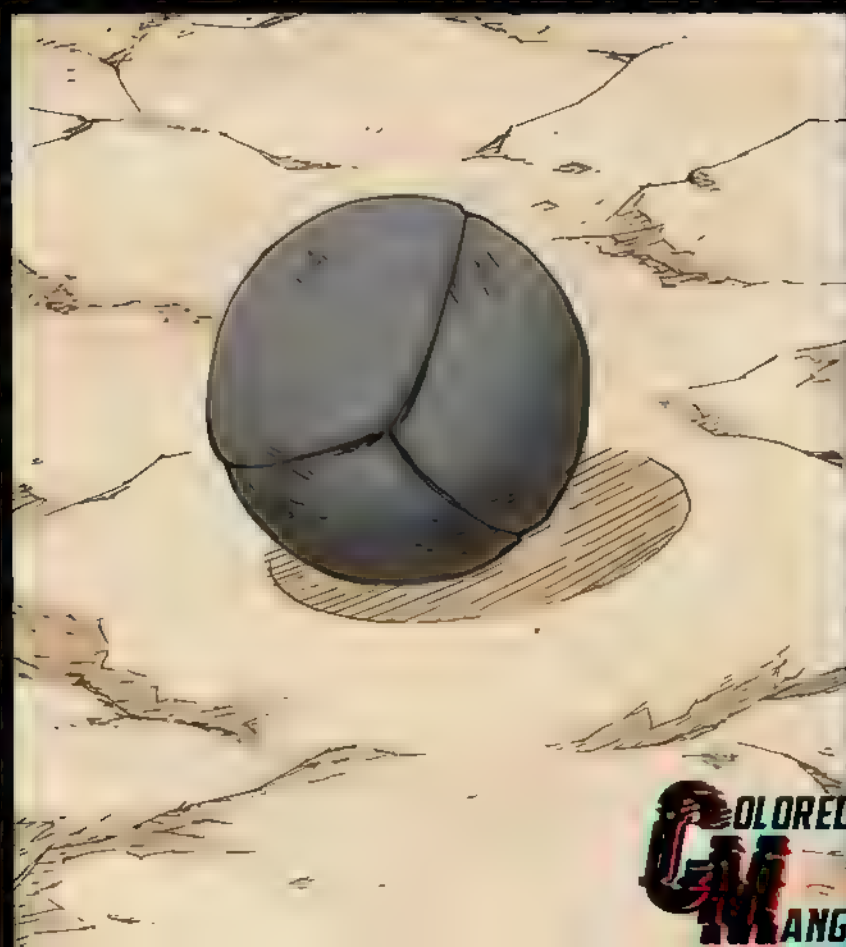
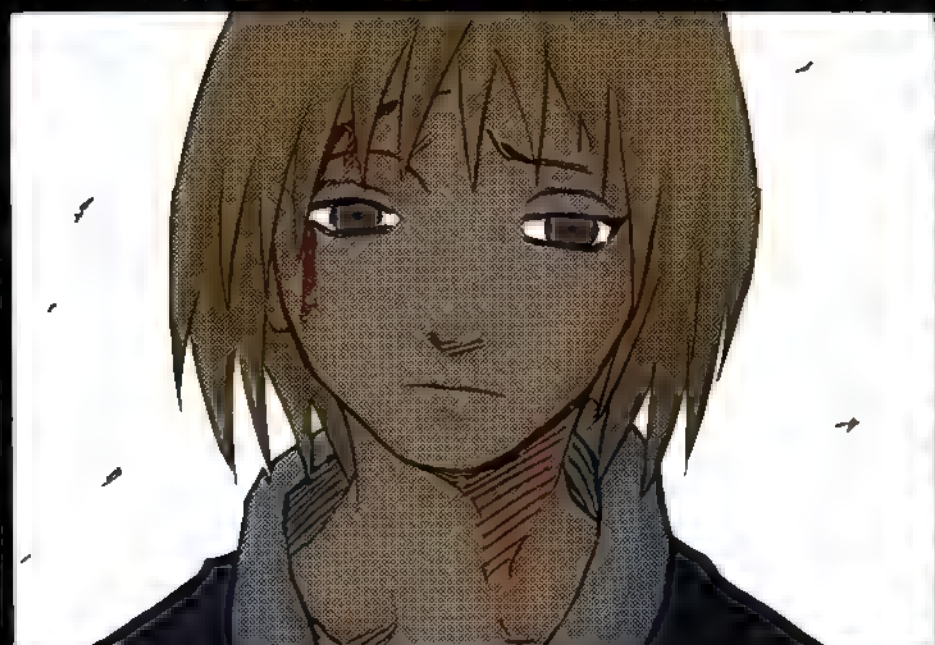
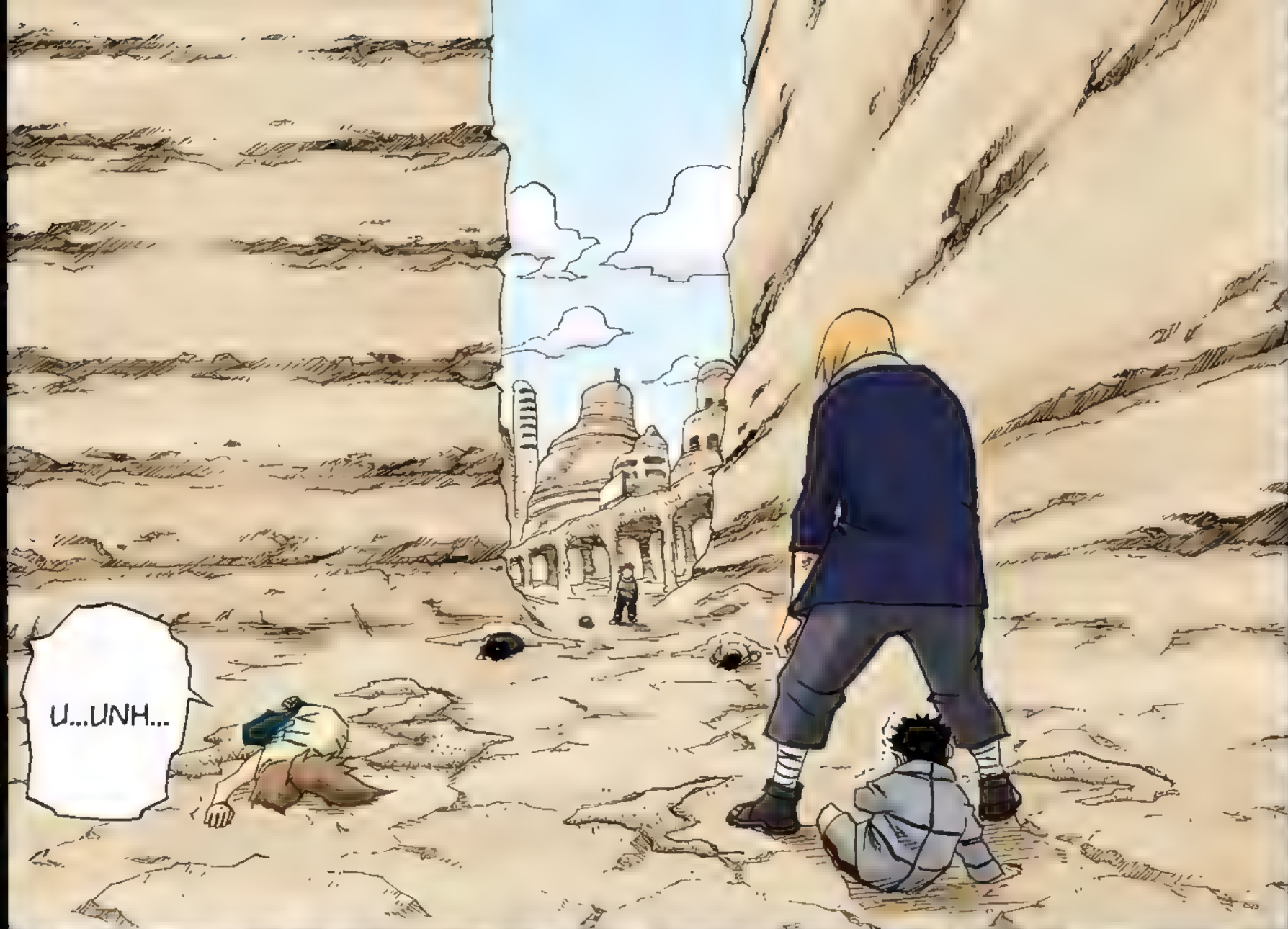


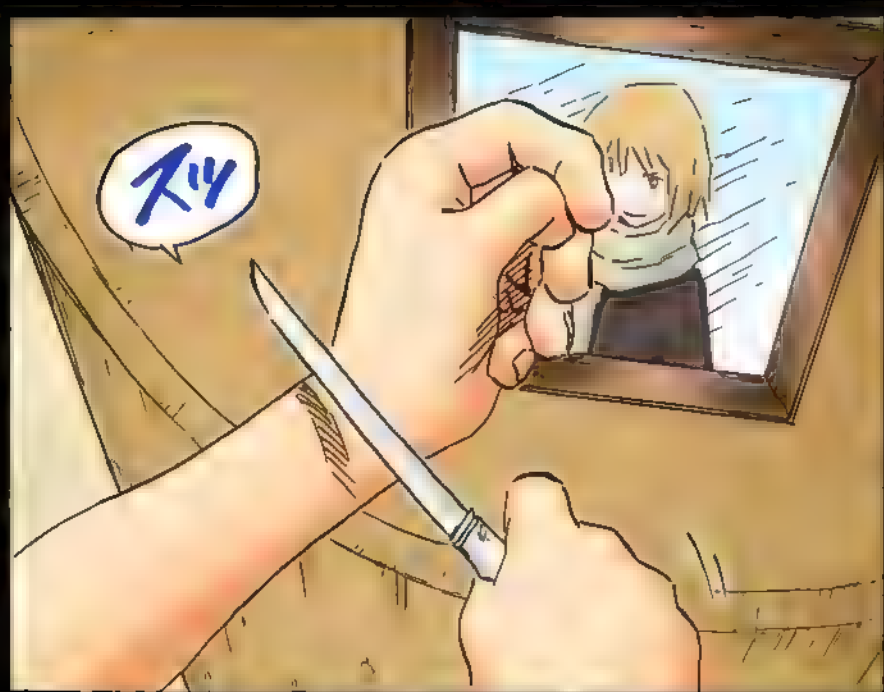
AAAAH!



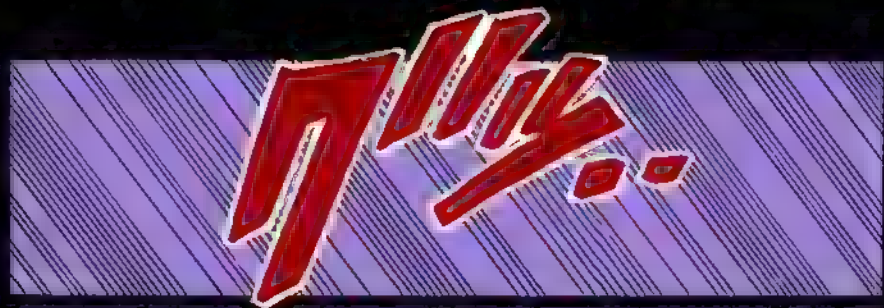
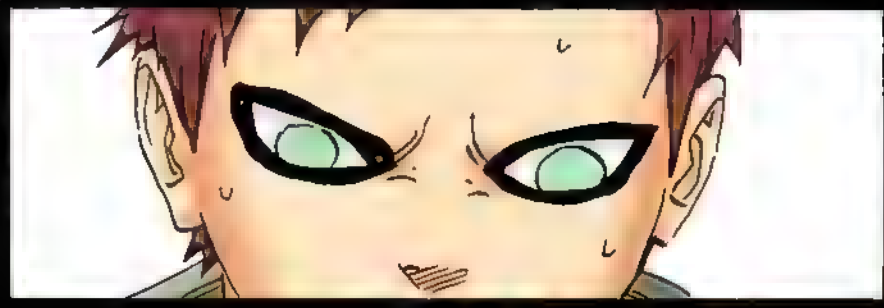
LORD
GAARA,
PLEASE
CALM
YOURSELF!!



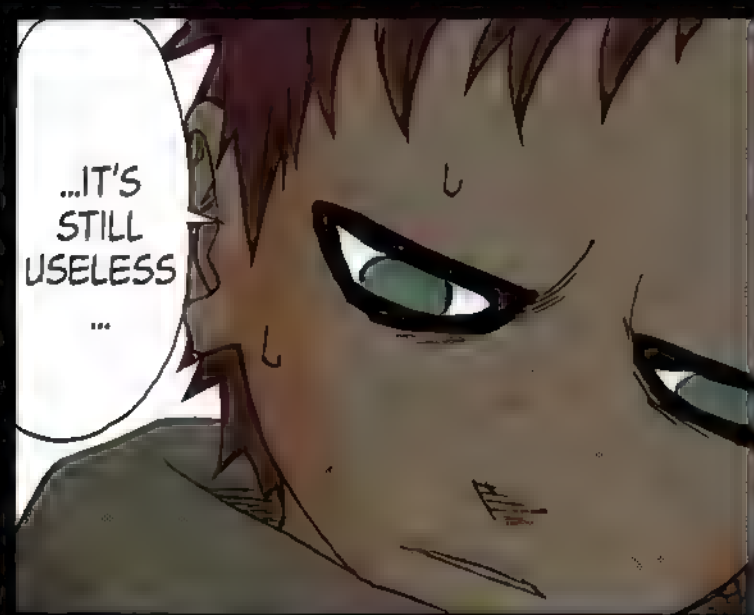




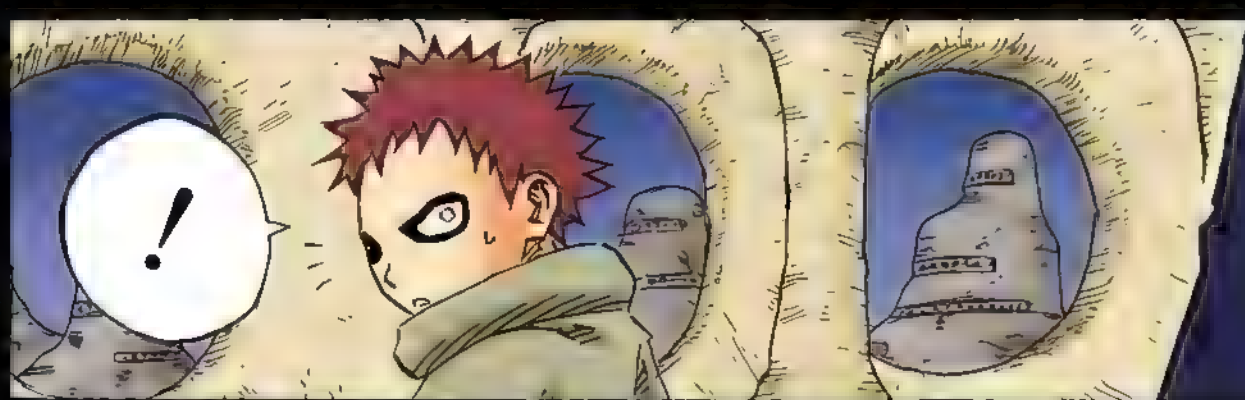
クッ



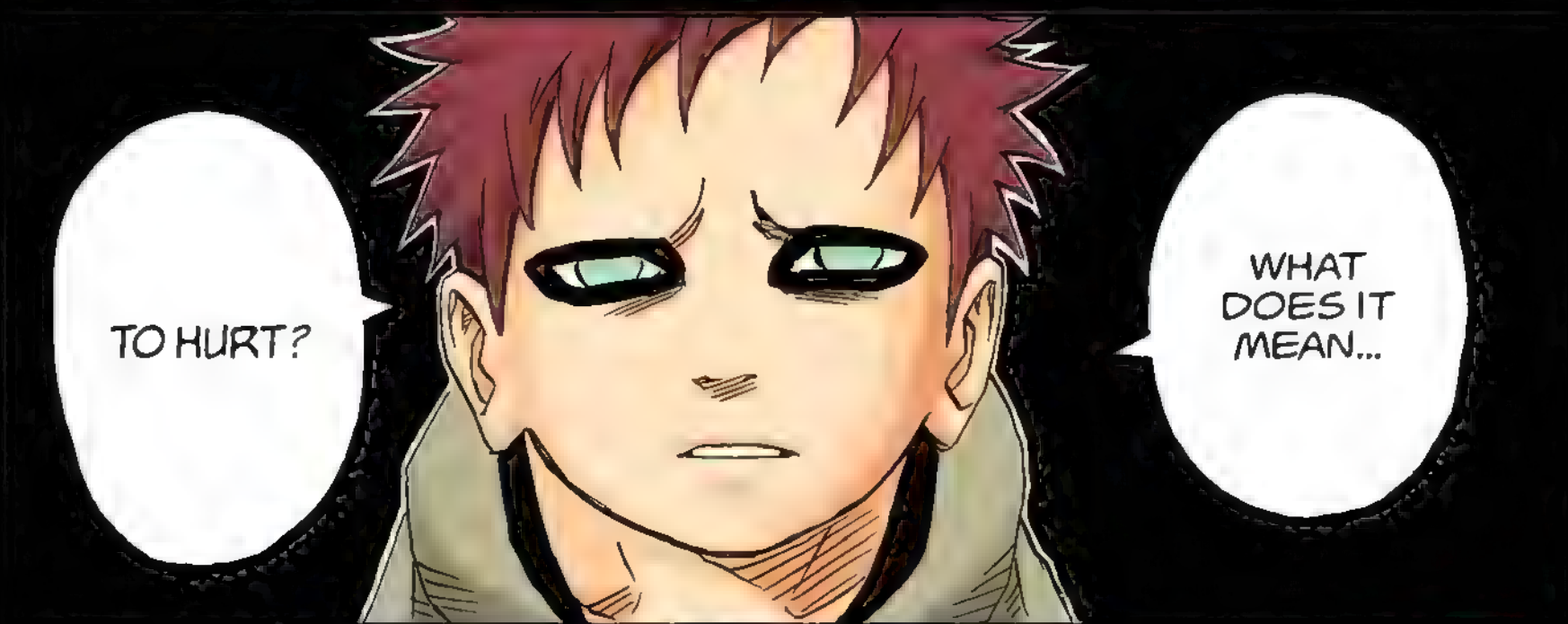
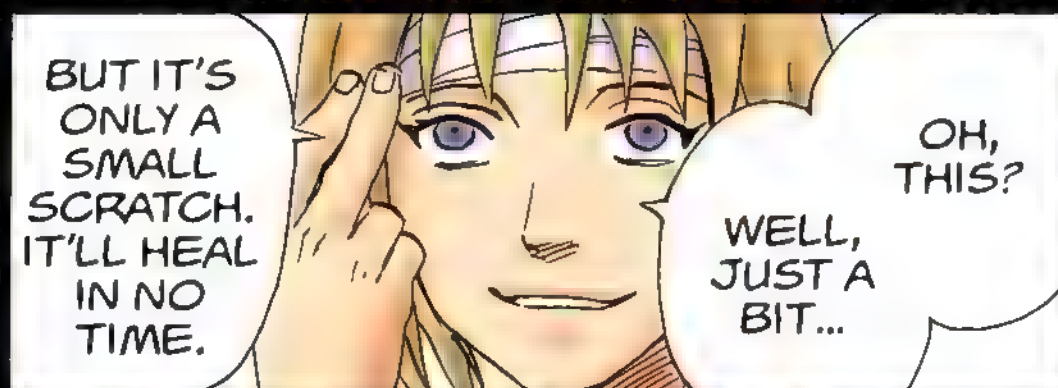
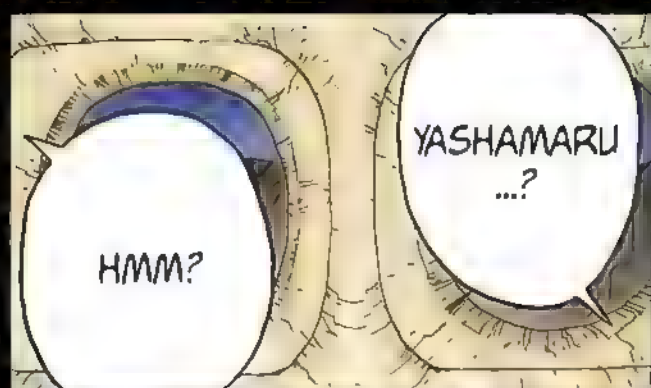
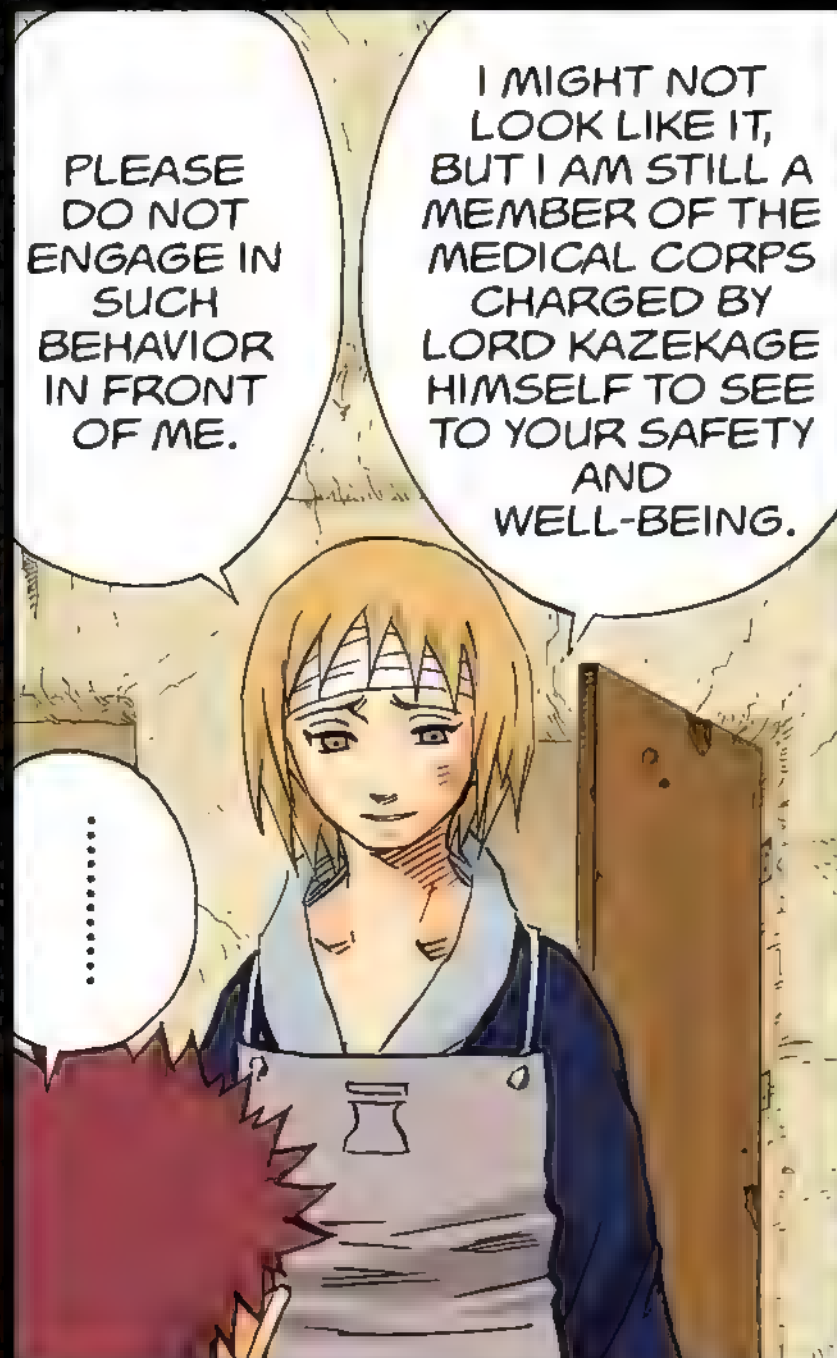
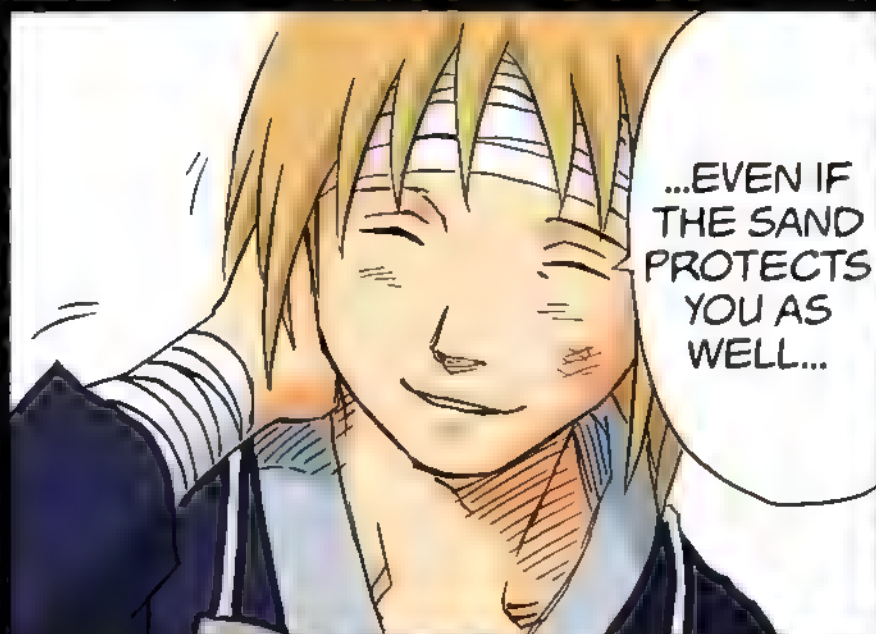
THE SAND PROTECTS ME...



...IT'S STILL USELESS ...



LORD GAARA...

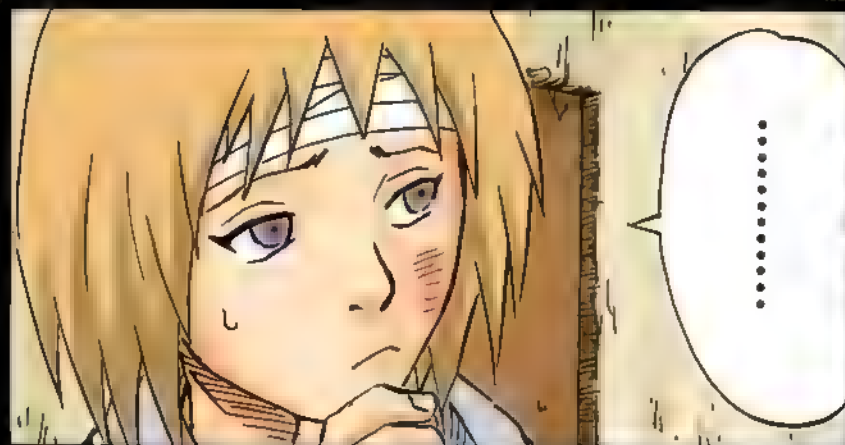


...TO
HURT?



...WHAT
DOES IT
MEAN...

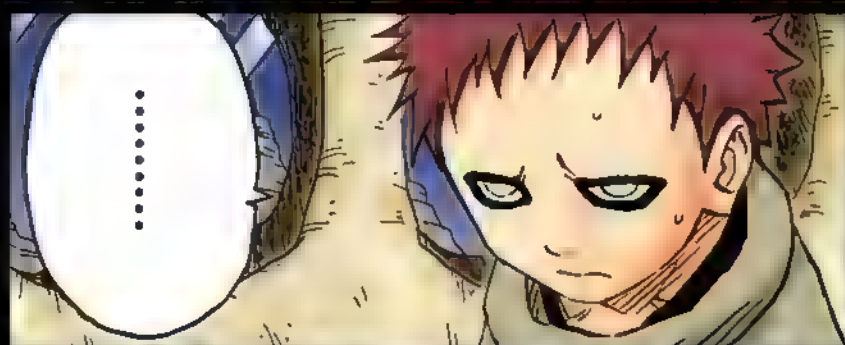
LOVE!!



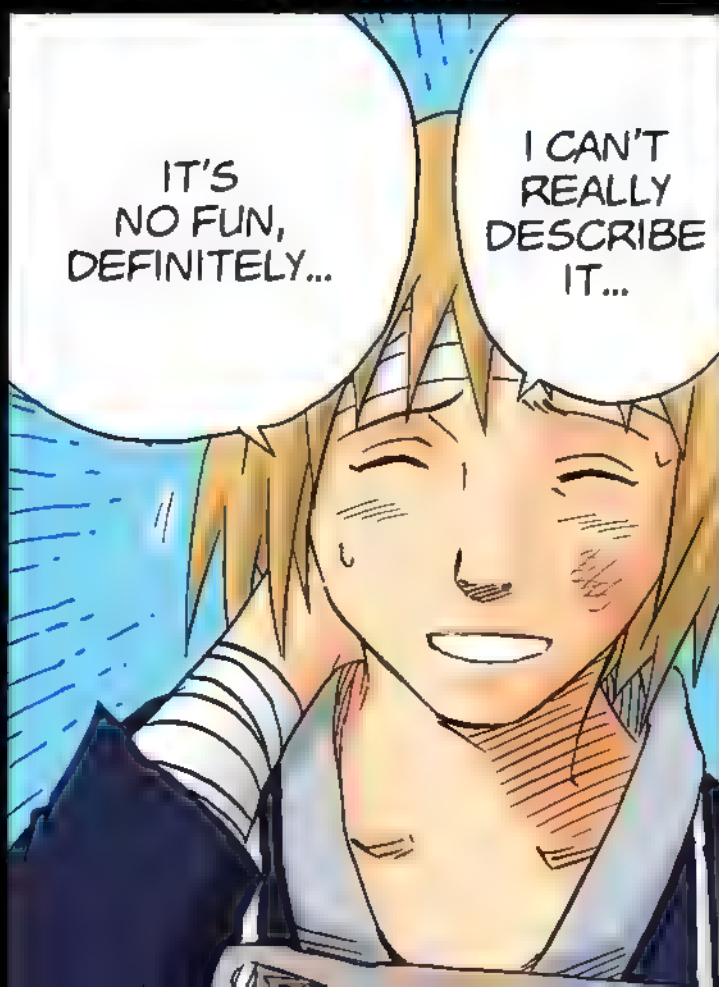
.....

I WAS
WONDERING
WHAT IT
FELT LIKE...

...I... I'VE
NEVER
EVEN BEEN
INJURED,
SO...



.....



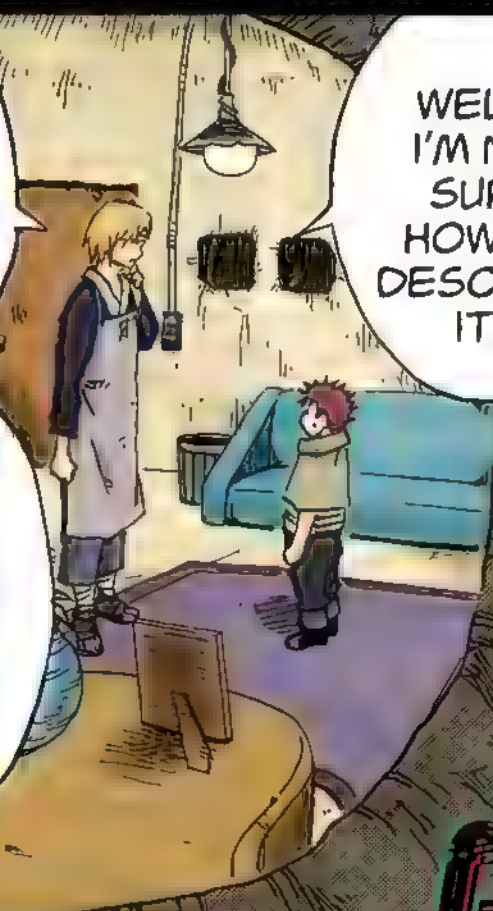
IT'S
NO FUN,
DEFINITELY...

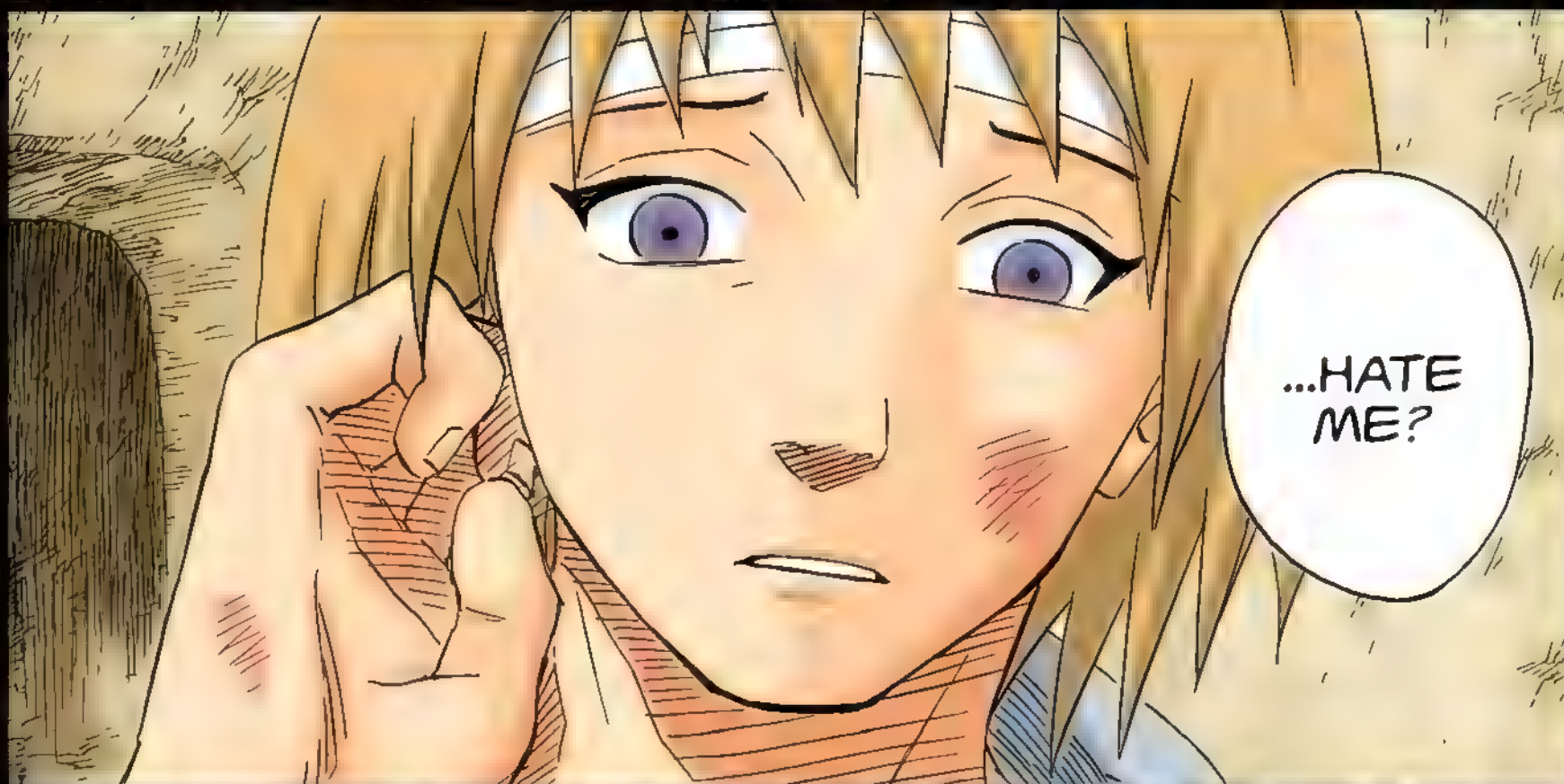
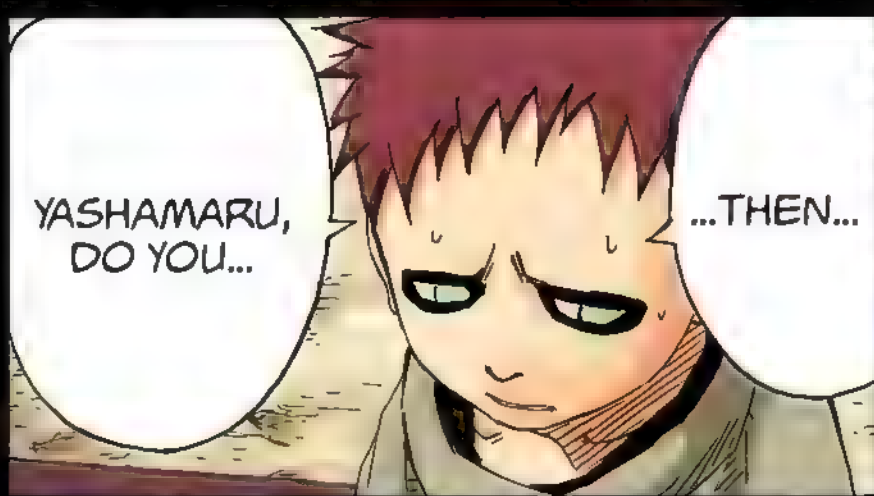
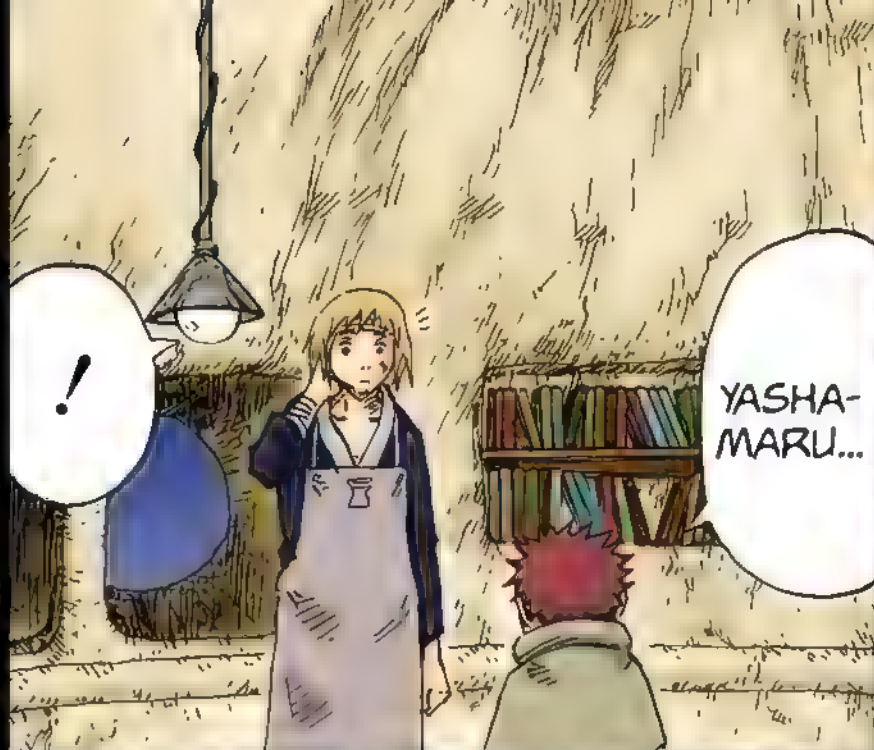
I CAN'T
REALLY
DESCRIBE
IT...

IT'S KINDA
PAINFUL...
KINDA
UNBEARABLE...

IN SHORT,
I GUESS YOU
COULD
IMAGINE... BEING
HIT OR CUT AND
YOU CAN'T HOLD
IT IN OR BE
YOURSELF ANY
LONGER...

WELL...
I'M NOT
SURE
HOW TO
DESCRIBE
IT...



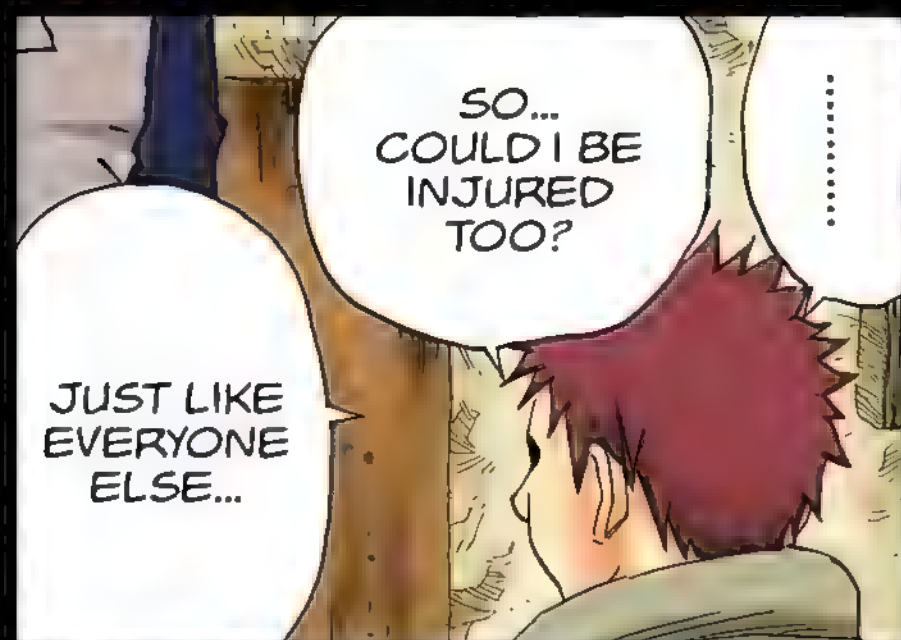




BUT EVEN
DESPITE
ALL THAT...

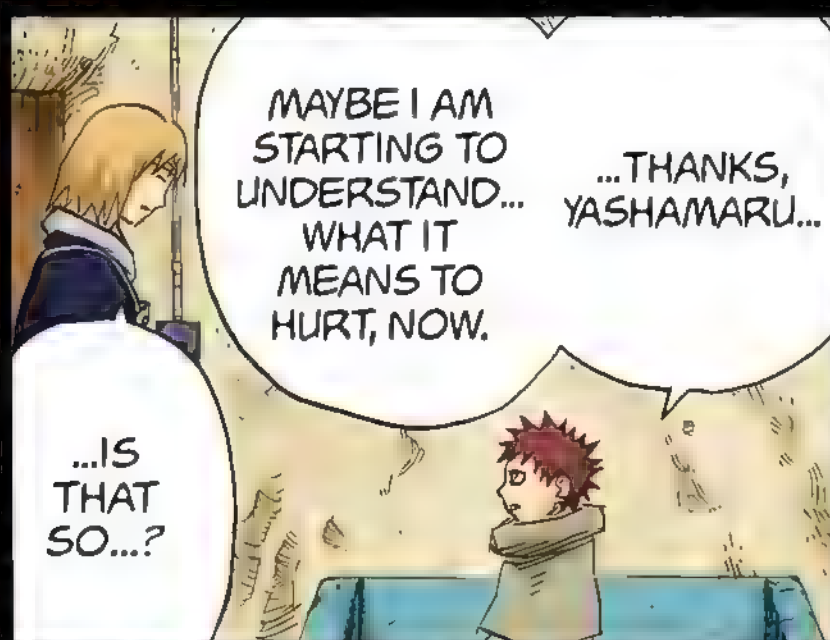
HUMANS LIVE
THEIR LIVES
HURTING
OTHERS AND
BEING HURT IN
RETURN.

...PEOPLE
STILL LOVE
MORE
THAN THEY
HATE...



SO...
COULD I BE
INJURED
TOO?

JUST LIKE
EVERYONE
ELSE...



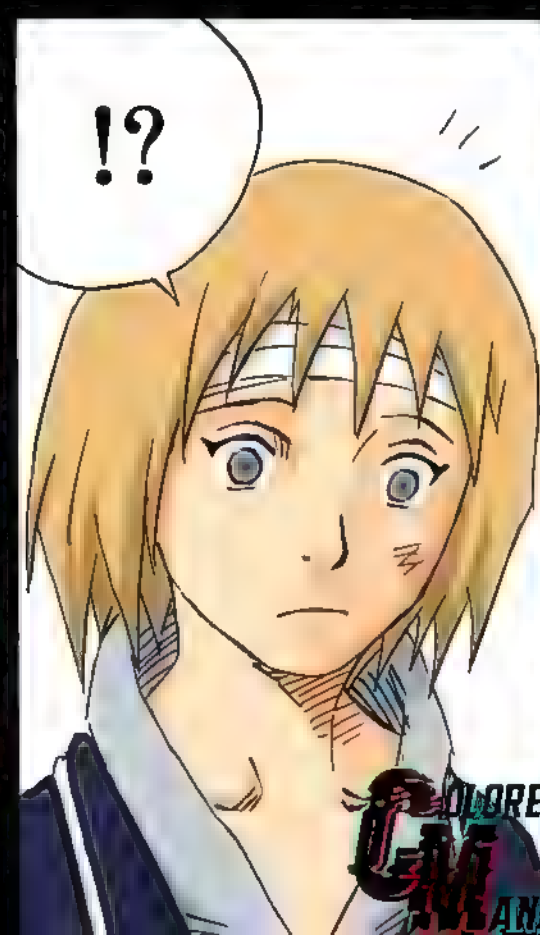
MAYBE I AM
STARTING TO
UNDERSTAND...
WHAT IT
MEANS TO
HURT, NOW.

...THANKS,
YASHAMARU...

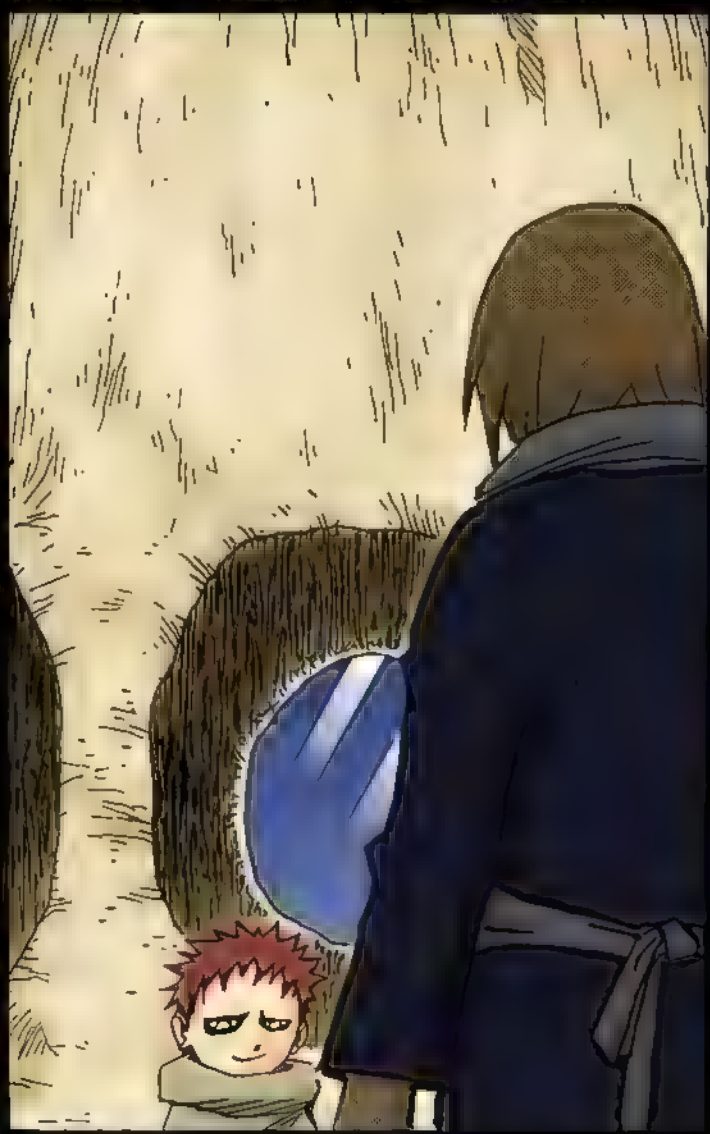
...IS
THAT
SO...?

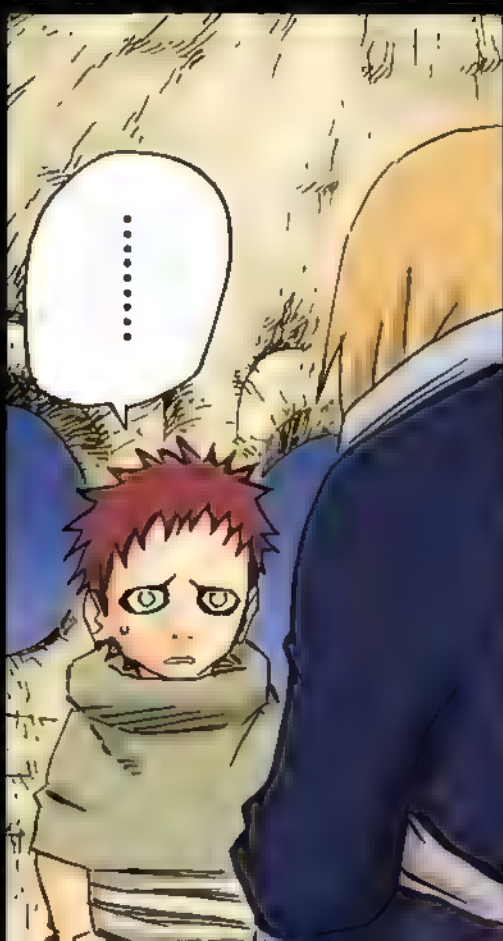
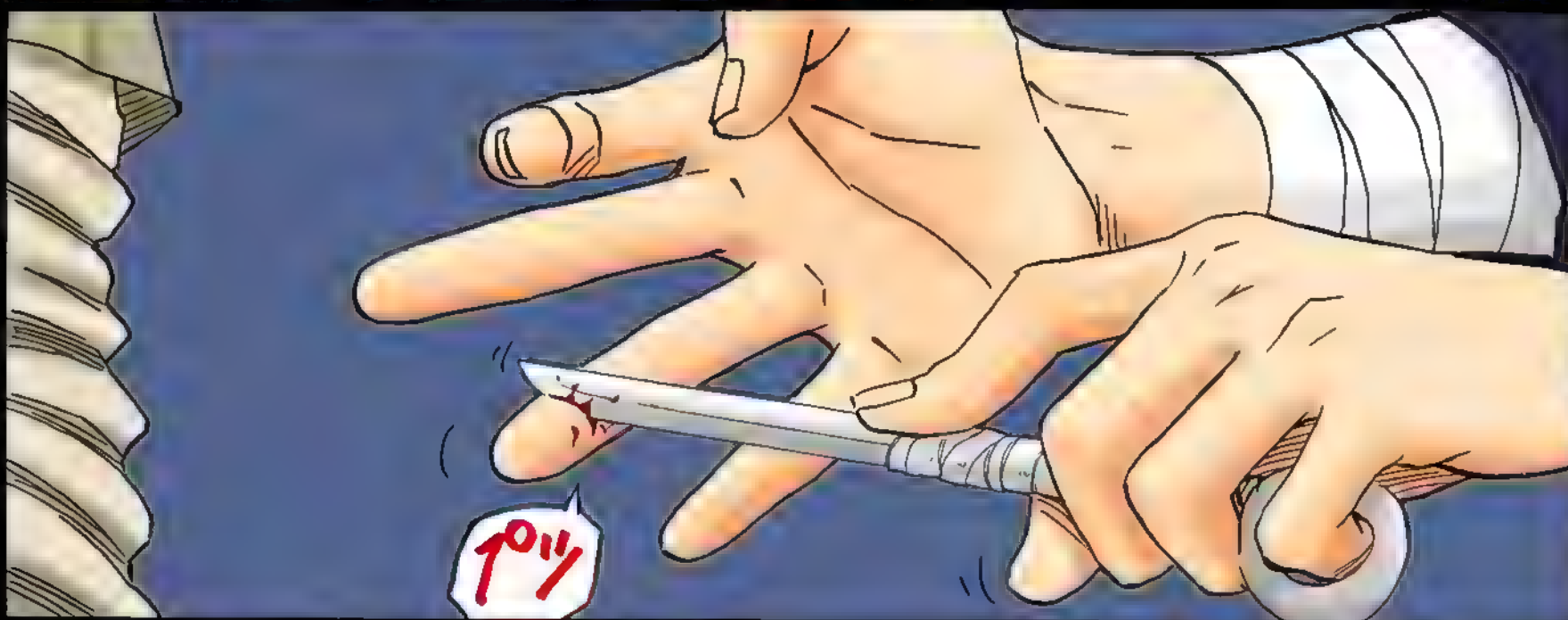
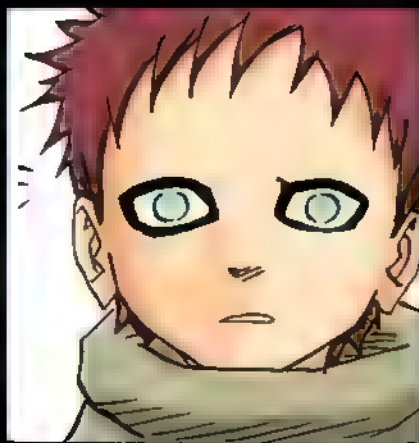
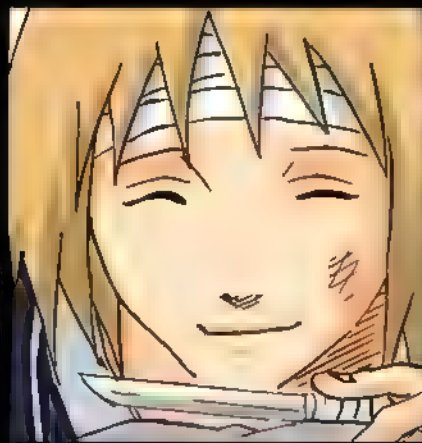


IT...
ALWAYS
HURTS.



!?

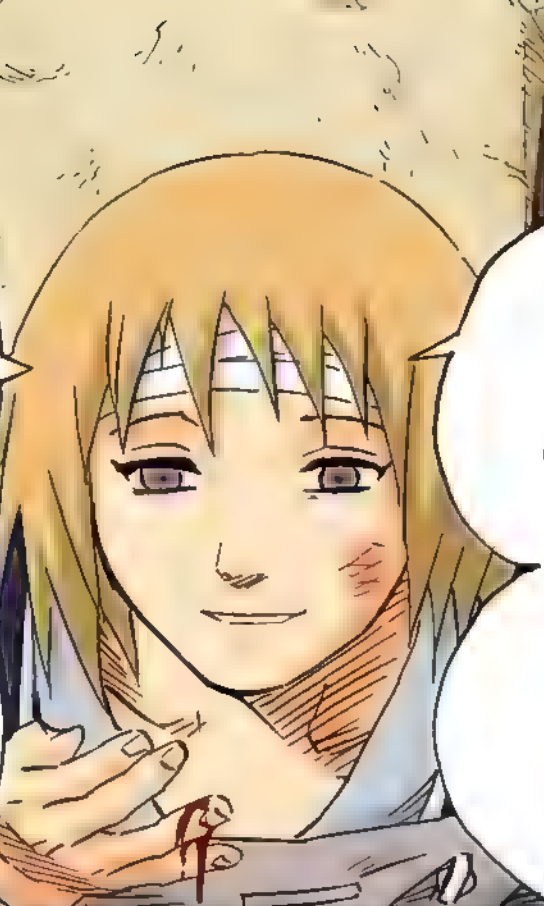






BUT
AS TIME
PASSES, THE
PAIN WILL
FADE ON ITS
OWN...

AND IF
ONE USES
MEDICINE,
IT WILL HEAL
EVEN
FASTER.

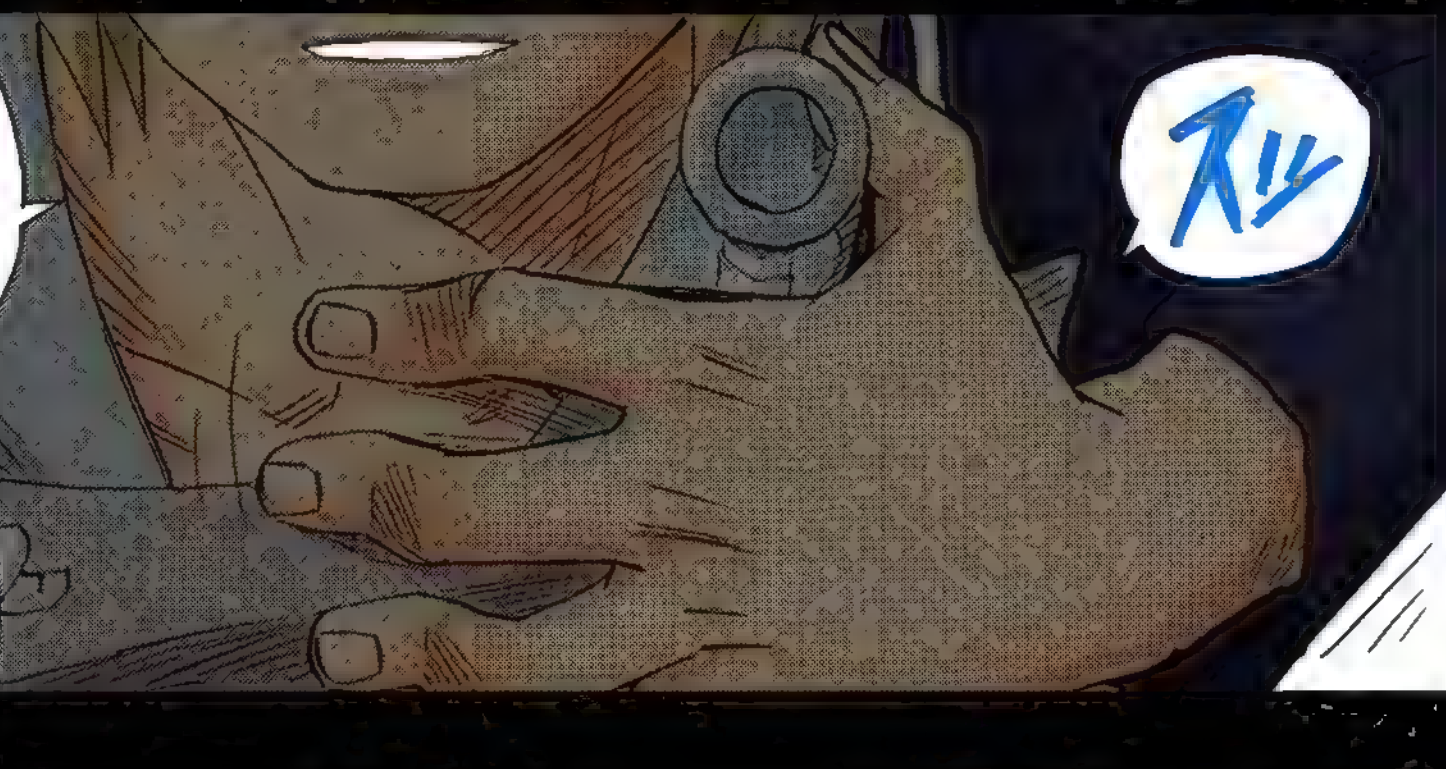


A WOUND
OF THE
BODY
CERTAINLY
BLEEDS...

AND CAN
APPEAR
PAINFUL.

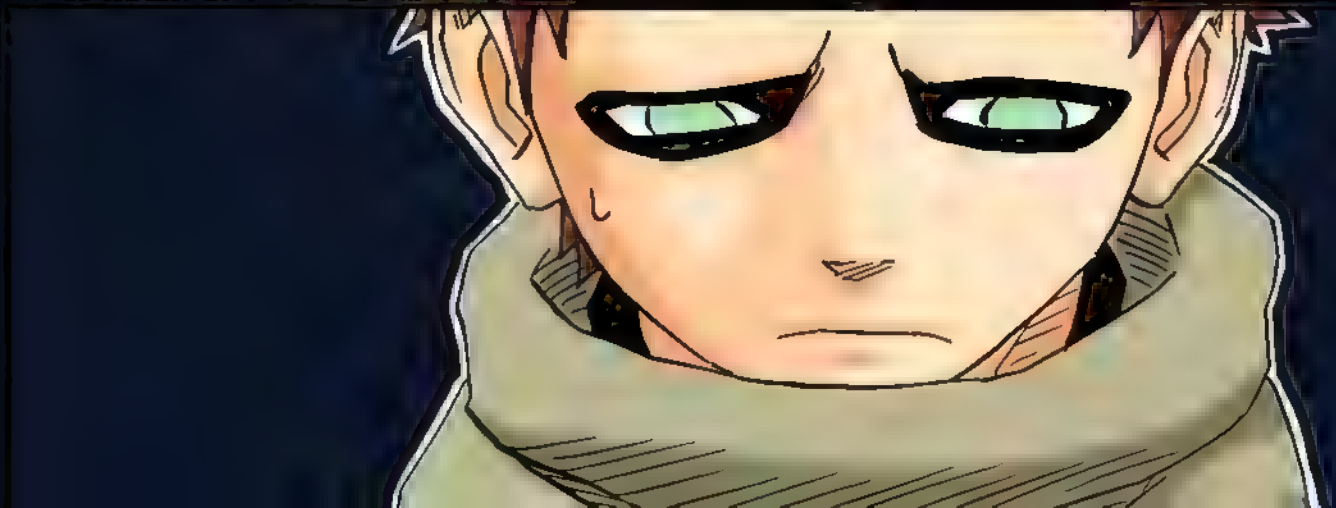
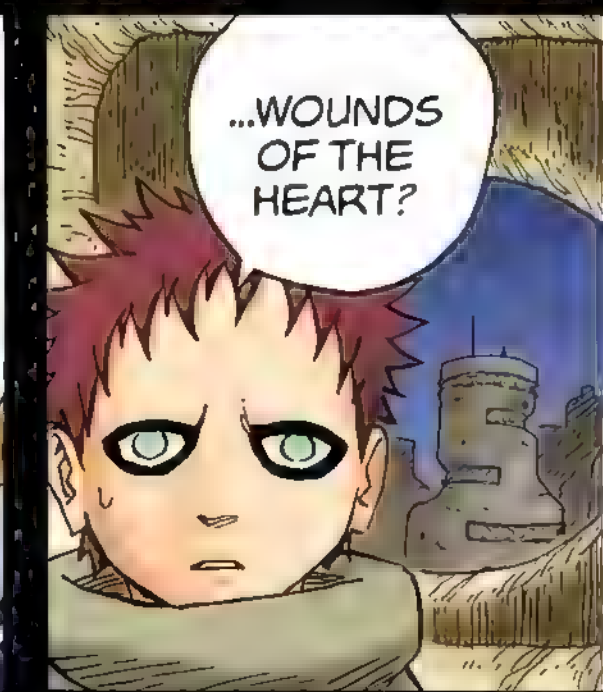
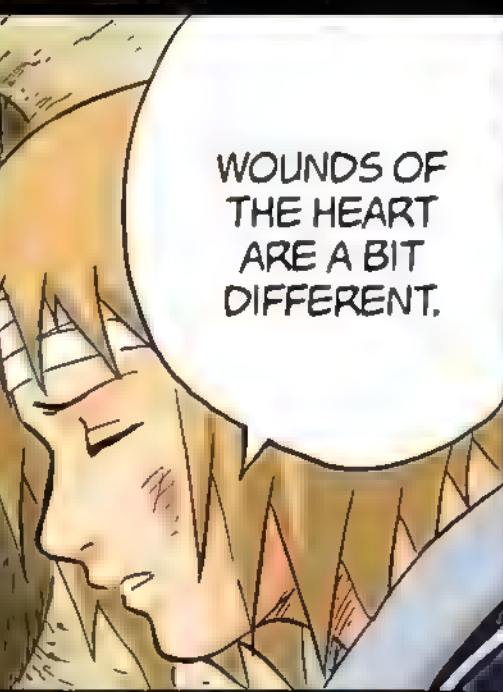
...BUT
WHAT ARE
TROUBLESOME
ARE THE
WOUNDS OF
THE HEART...

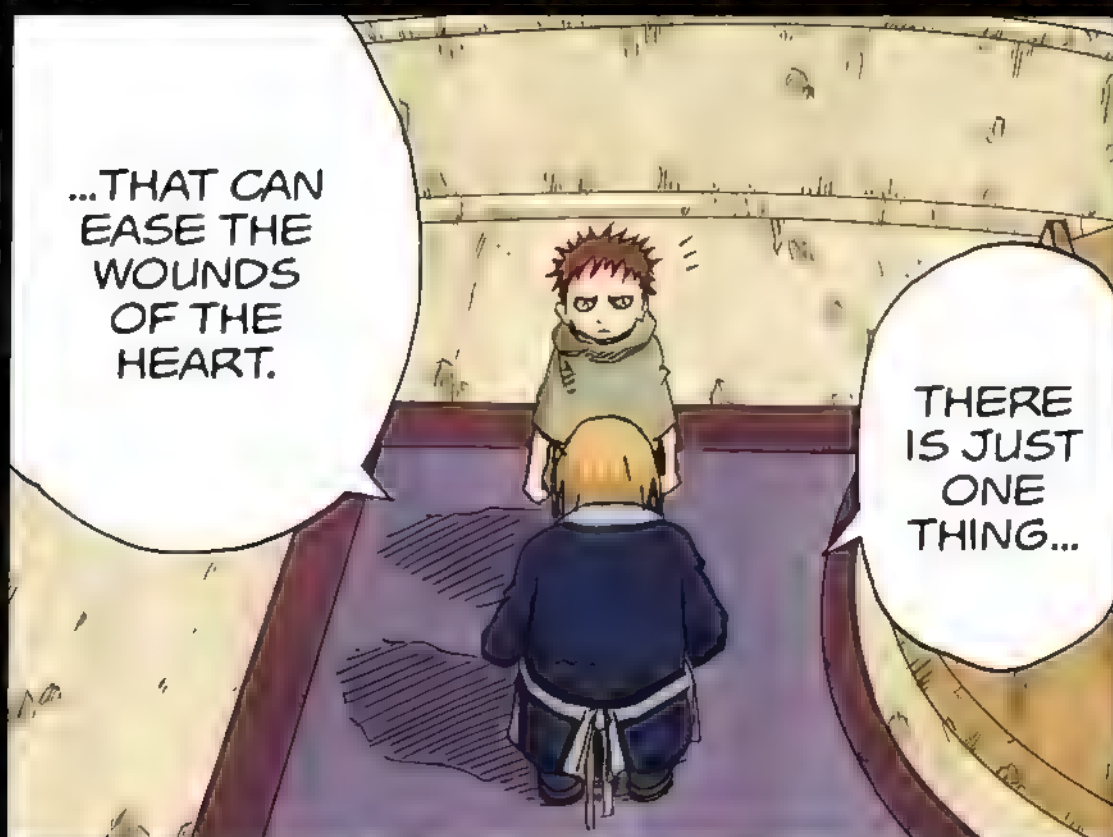
THEY ARE
EXTREMELY
SLOW TO
HEAL.



UNLIKE WOUNDS
OF THE BODY,
THERE ARE NO
MEDICINES THAT
CAN HELP THEM
GET BETTER...

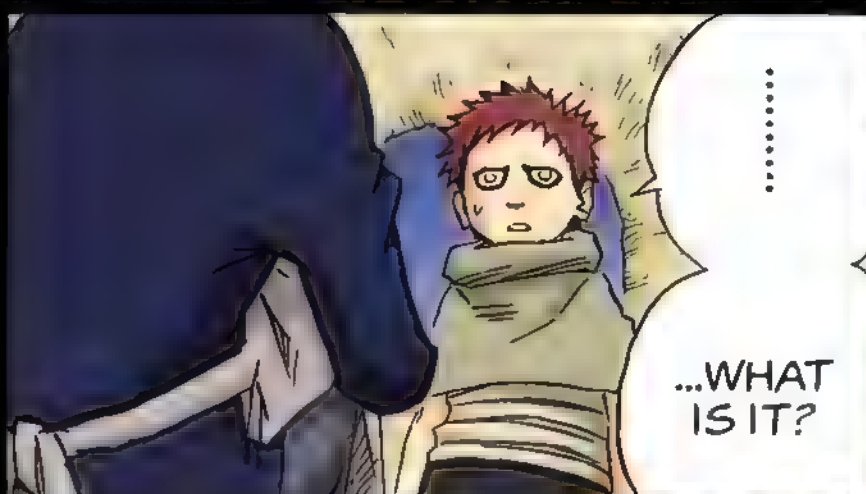
AND
SOMETIMES,
THEY NEVER
EVER HEAL.



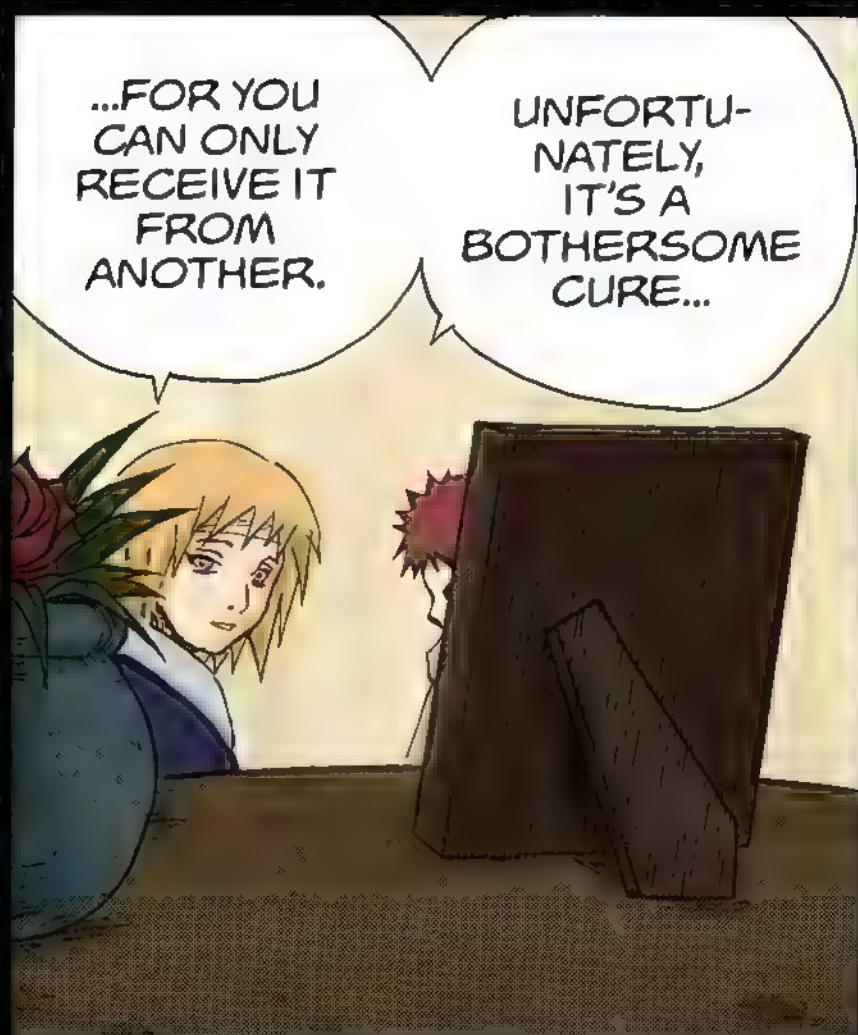


...THAT CAN
EASE THE
WOUNDS
OF THE
HEART.

THERE
IS JUST
ONE
THING...

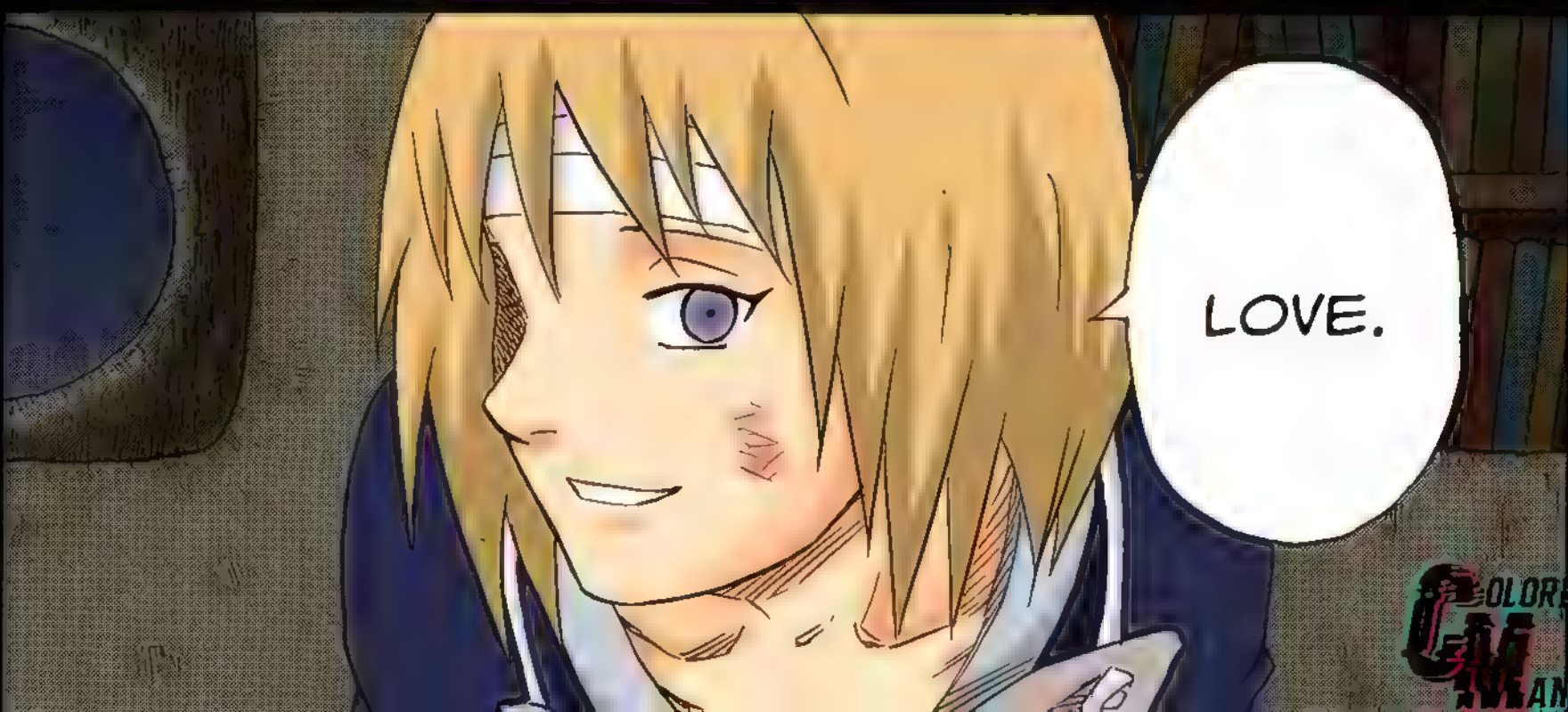
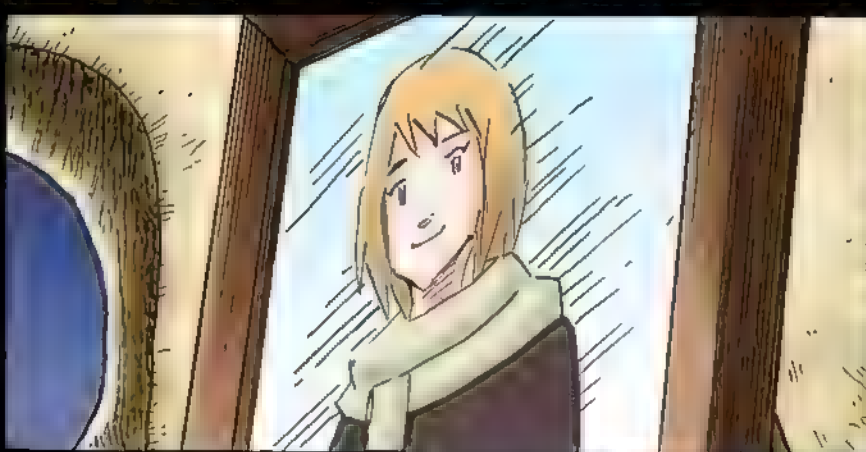


...WHAT
IS IT?

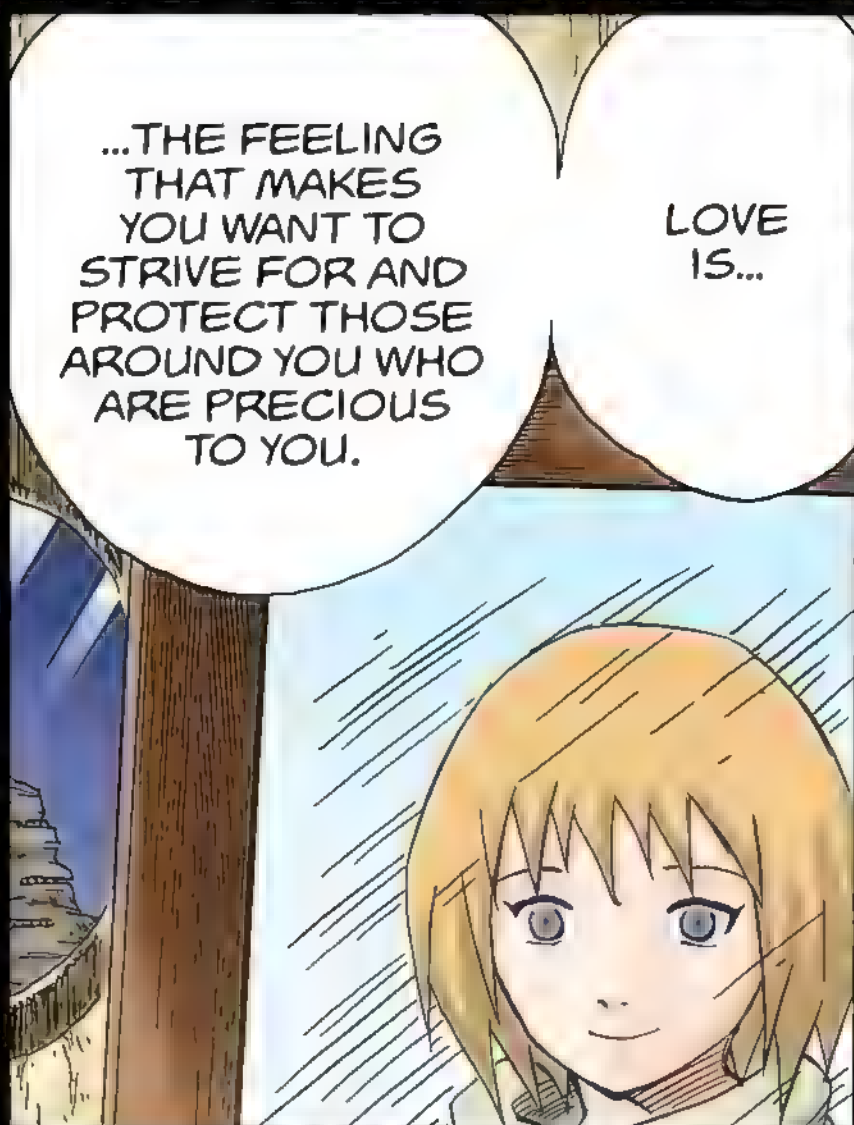
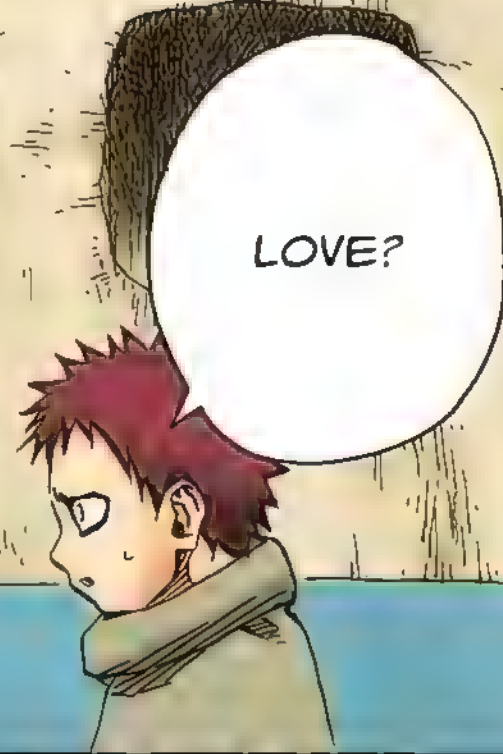
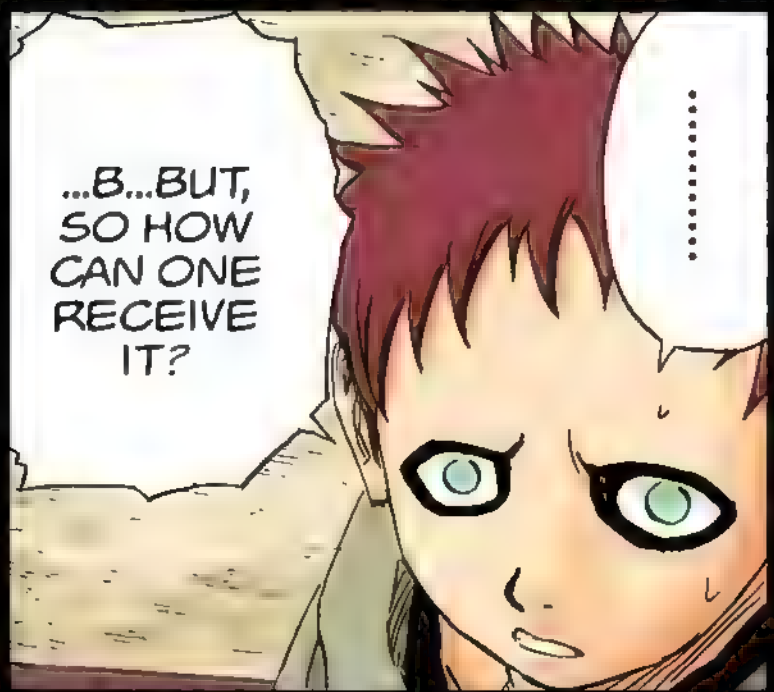


...FOR YOU
CAN ONLY
RECEIVE IT
FROM
ANOTHER.

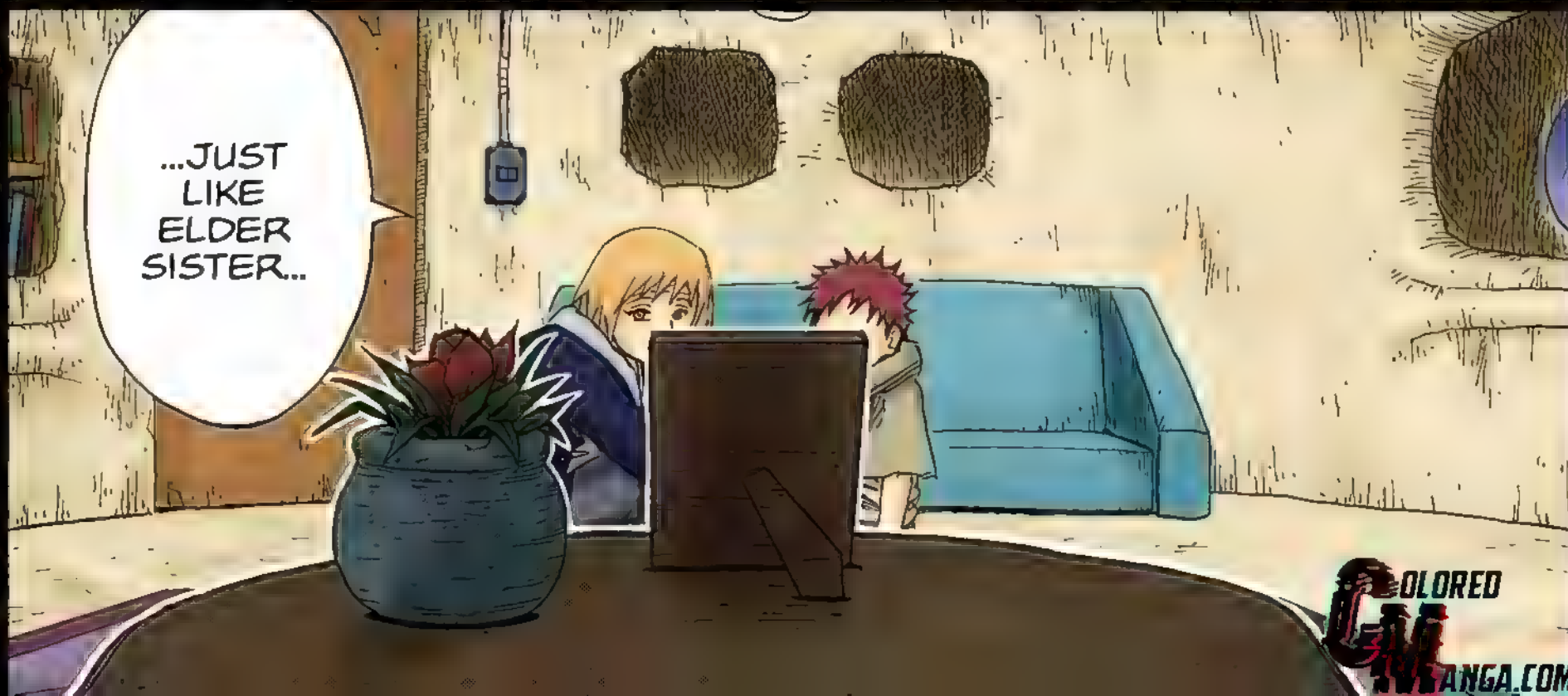
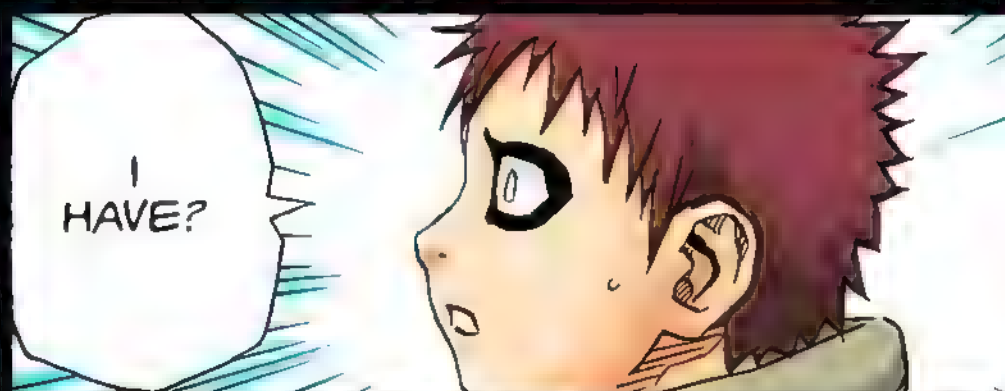
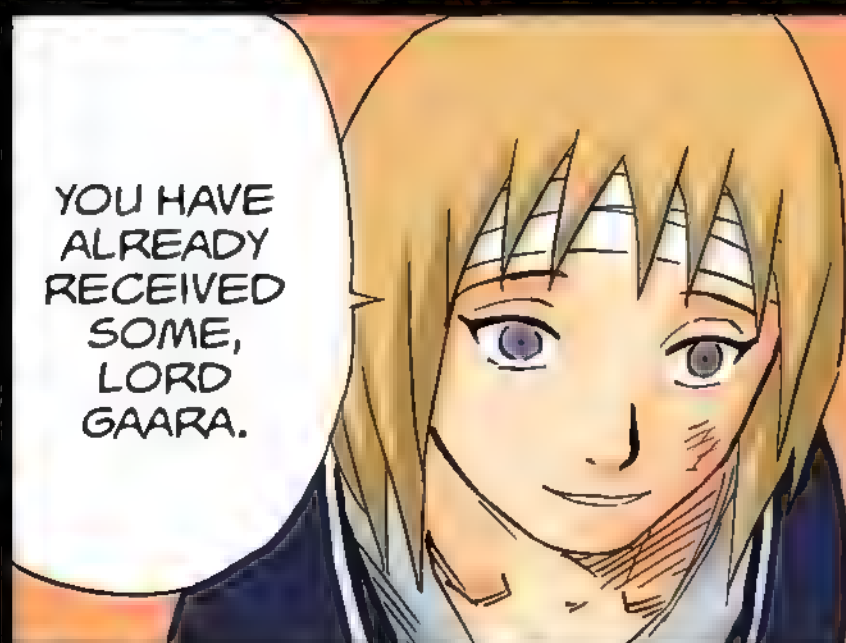
UNFORTU-
NATELY,
IT'S A
BOTHERSOME
CURE...

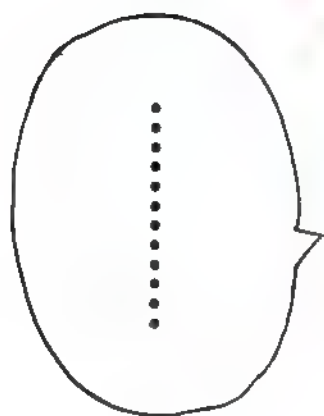


LOVE.



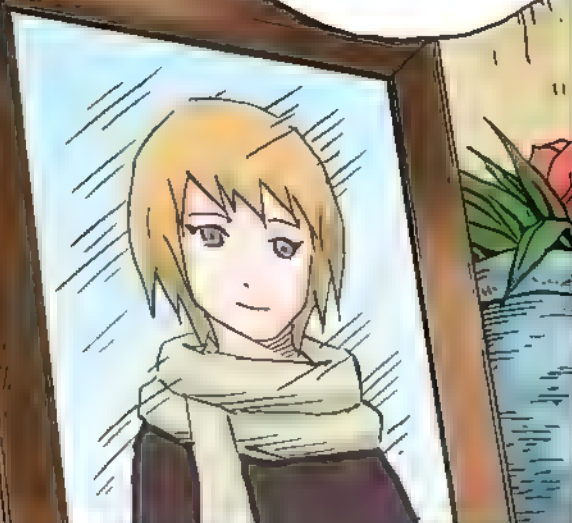
LOVE
IS...





I THINK
THAT YOUR
MOTHER'S
WILL HAS
SEEPED
INTO THAT
SAND.

WHEN THE
SAND TRIES
TO PROTECT
YOU, I BELIEVE
IT'S AN
EXPRESSION
OF MATERNAL
LOVE.



I TRULY
BELIEVE
ELDER SISTER
LOVED YOU
VERY DEEPLY,
LORD GAARA.

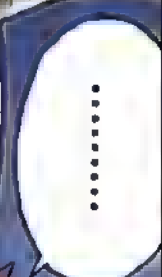
SHUKAKU OF
THE SAND IS
SUPPOSED TO
BE A WRAITH
USED FOR
OFFENSIVE
ASSAULTS.



...EVEN
UNTO
HER
DEATH...

...MUST
HAVE
WANTED
TO
PROTECT
YOU...

ELDER
SISTER...



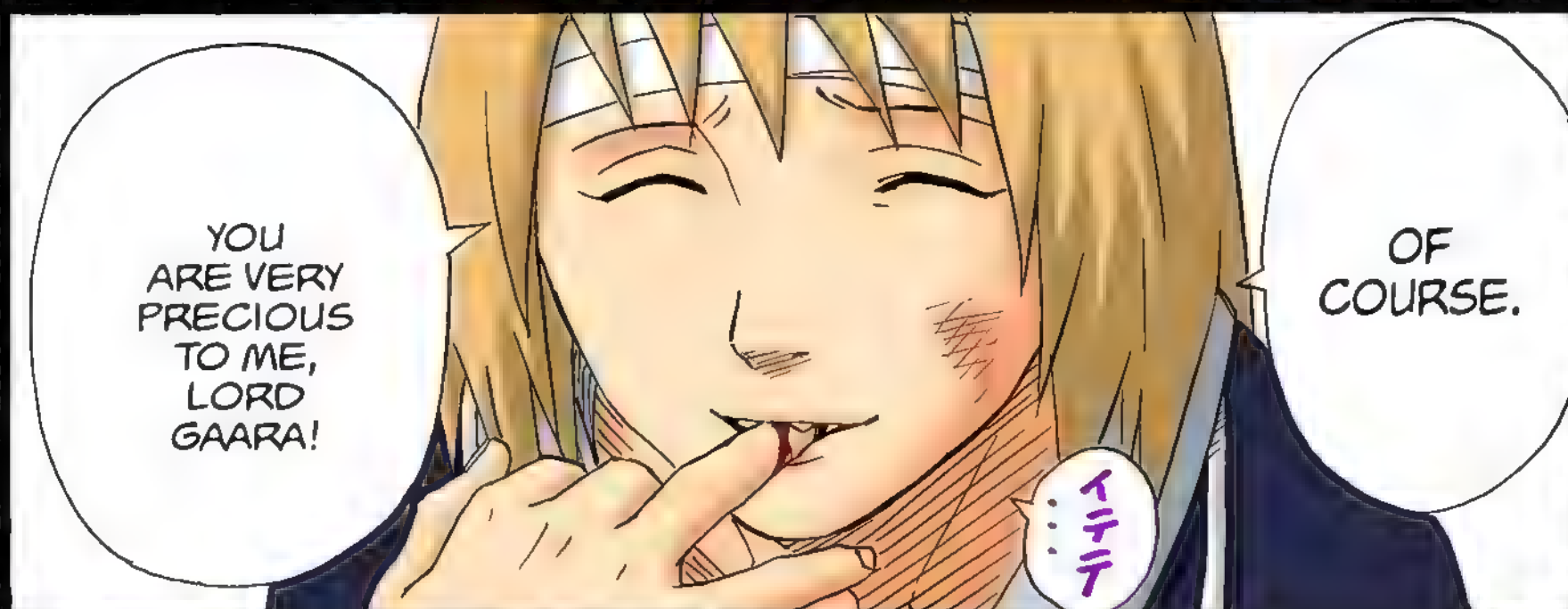


FOR
STOPPING
ME.



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

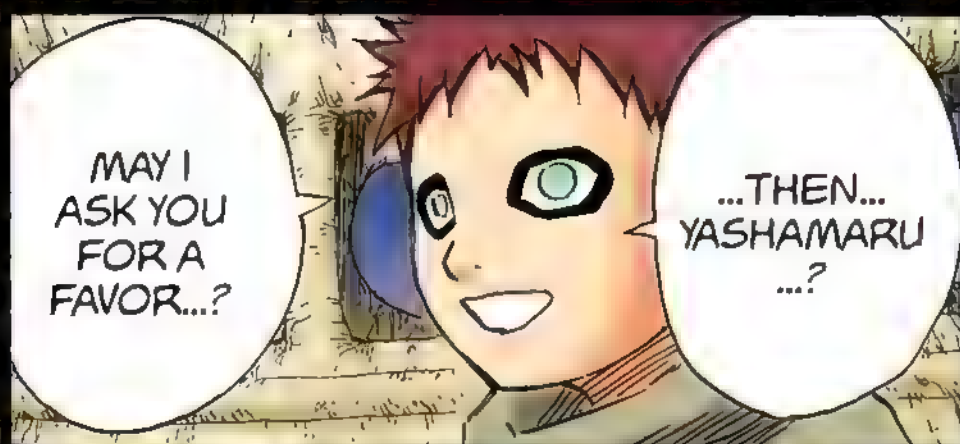
YASHAMARU,
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
HELP...



YOU
ARE VERY
PRECIOUS
TO ME,
LORD
GAARA!

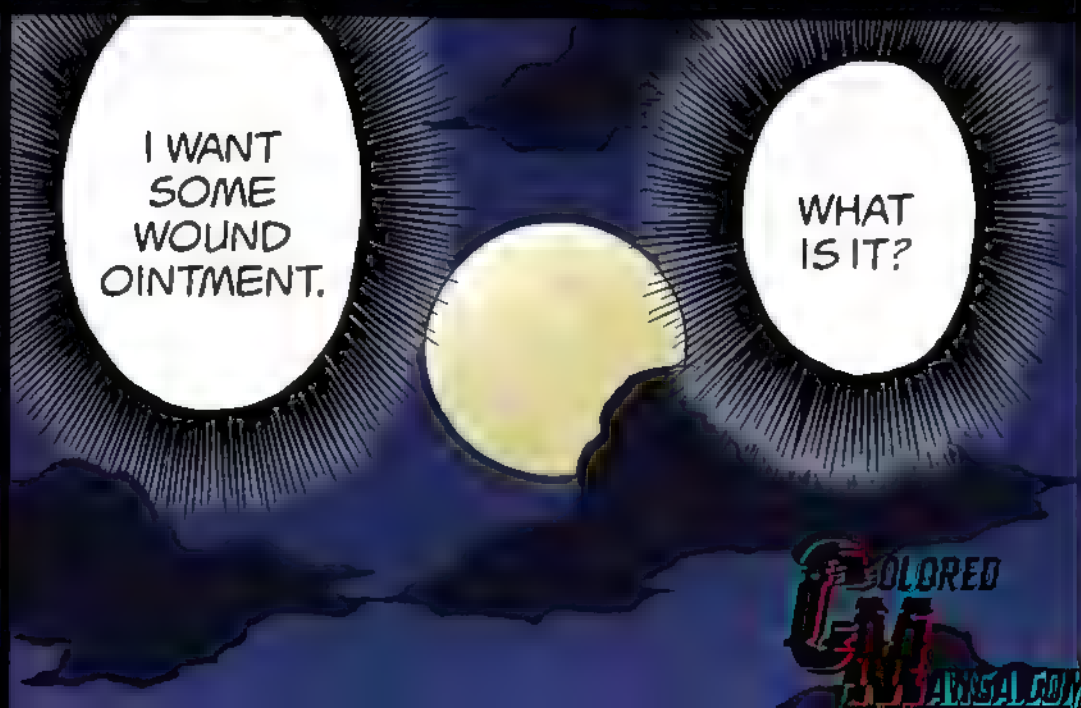
OF
COURSE.

イ
テ
テ



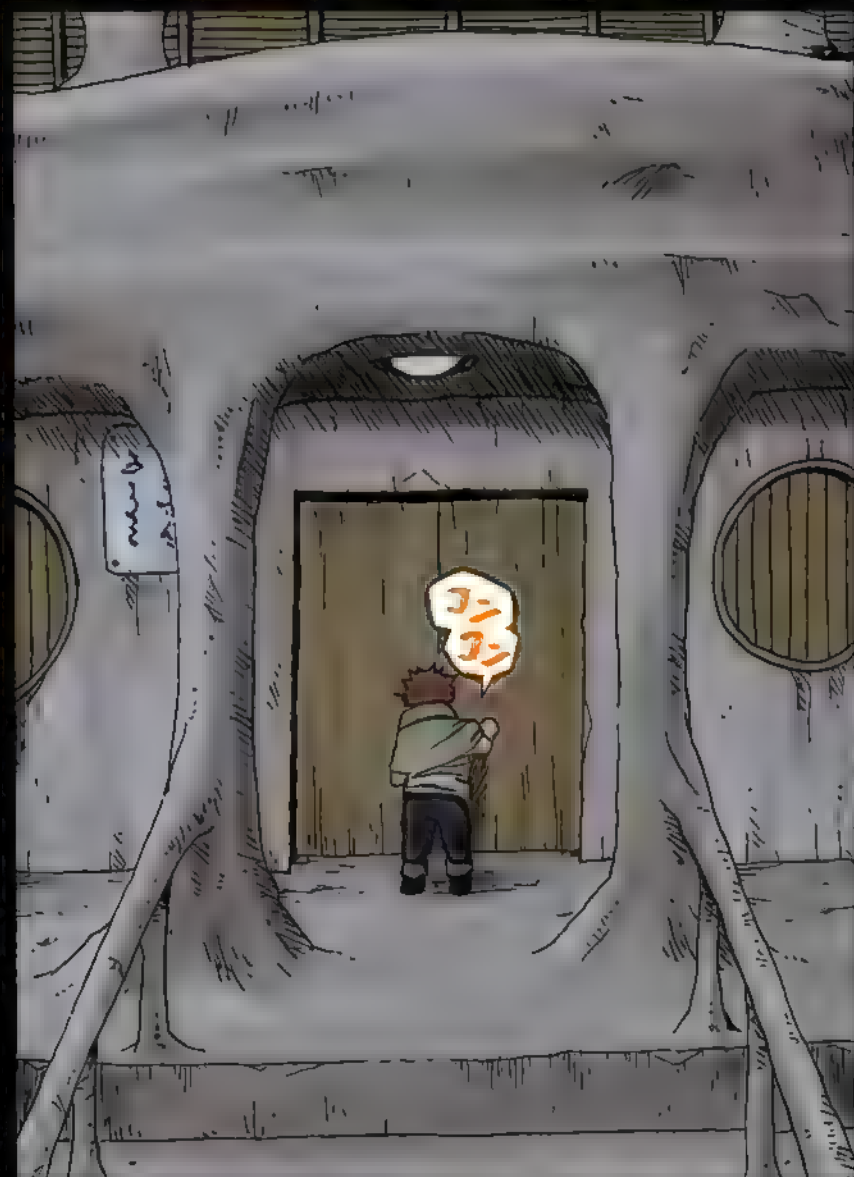
MAY I
ASK YOU
FOR A
FAVOR....?

...THEN...
YASHAMARU
...?



I WANT
SOME
WOUND
OINTMENT.

WHAT
IS IT?

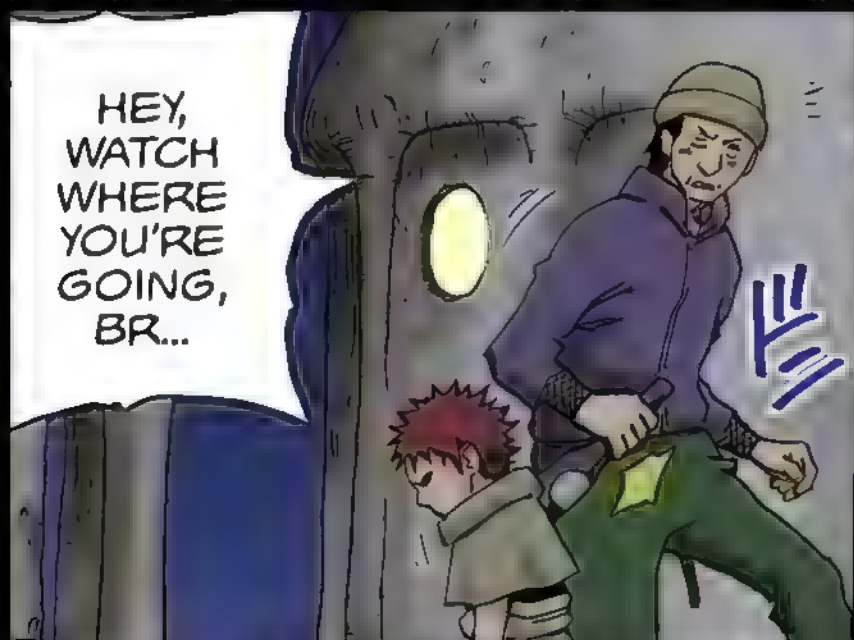


...GO HOME, MONSTER...

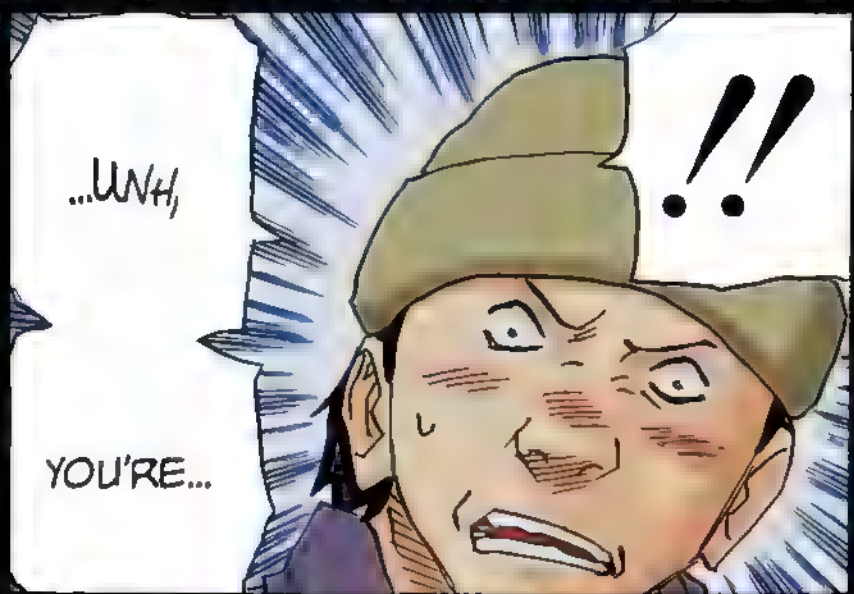
HERE'S SOME WOUND OINTMENT, PLEASE TAKE...

I'M SORRY ABOUT EARLIER... IT MUST HAVE HURT...





HEY,
WATCH
WHERE
YOU'RE
GOING,
BR...

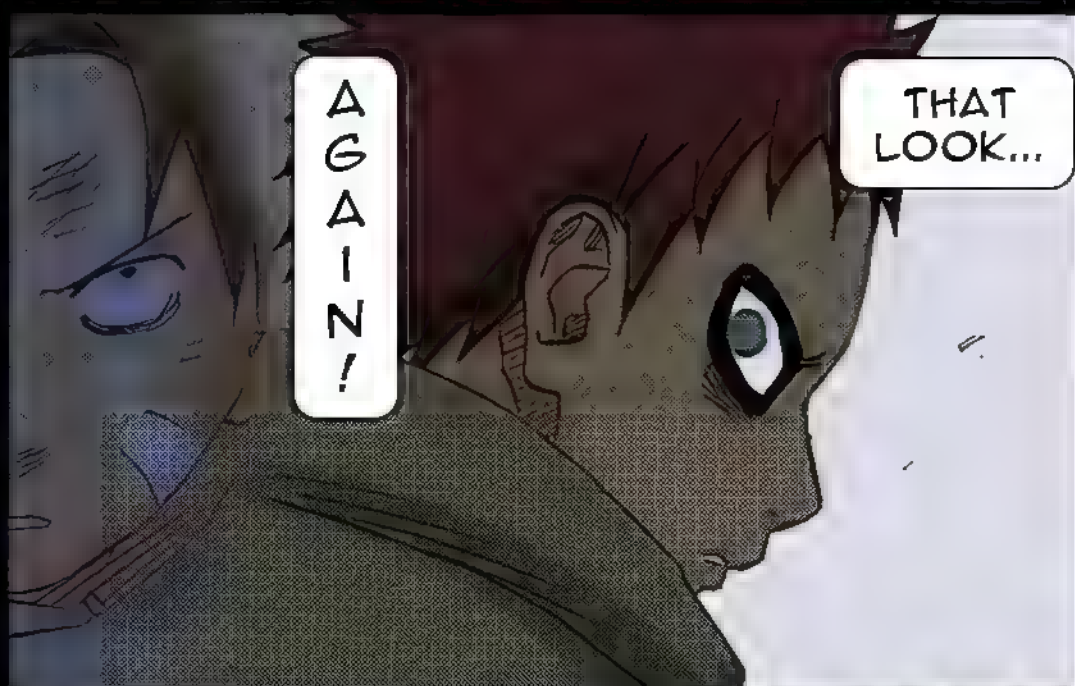


...UNH,

YOU'RE...



W
H
Y
...



A
G
A
I
N!

THAT
LOOK...



...H...
HEY...!

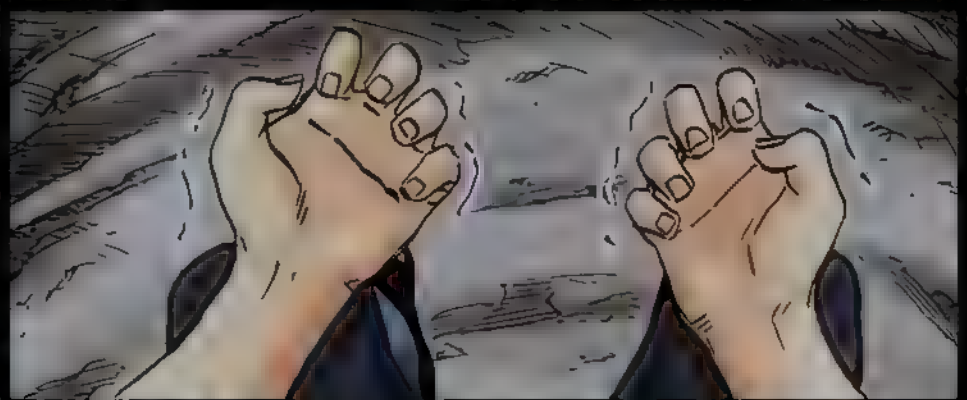


W
H
Y?
!



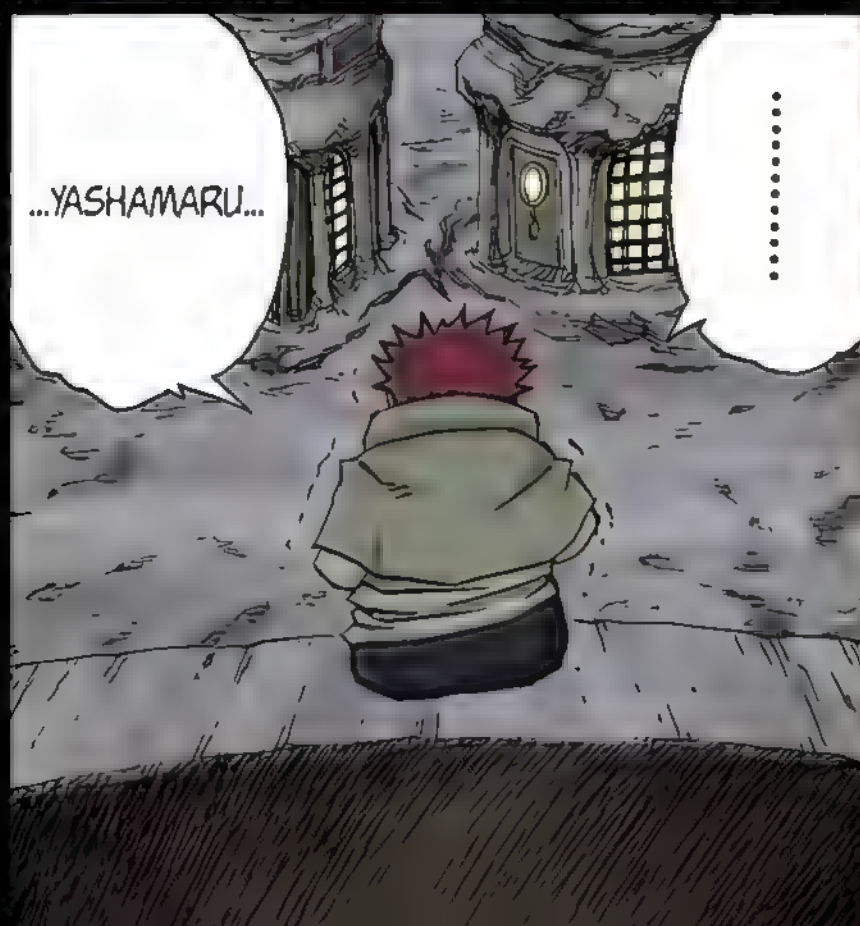
IT
STILL
DOESN'T
WORK...

I
GUESS



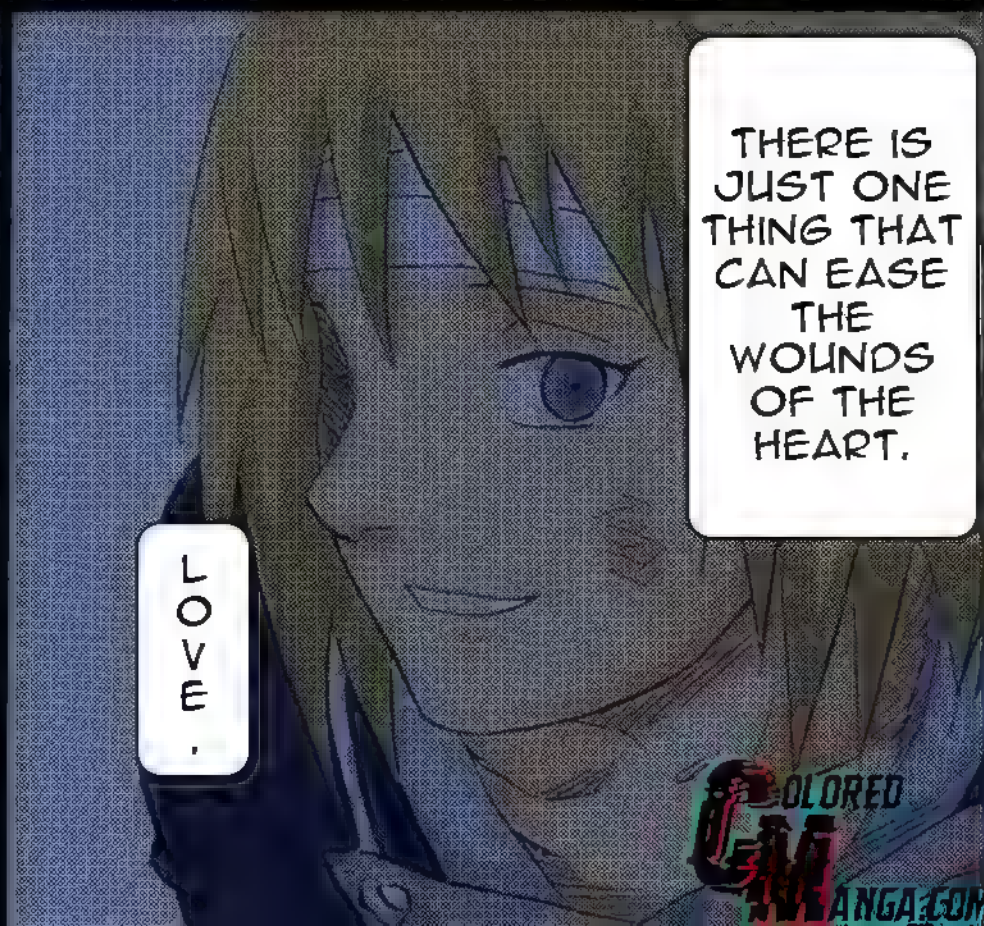
WHAT...
AM I
?!

WHY...
AM I
SUCH A
MONSTER
?!



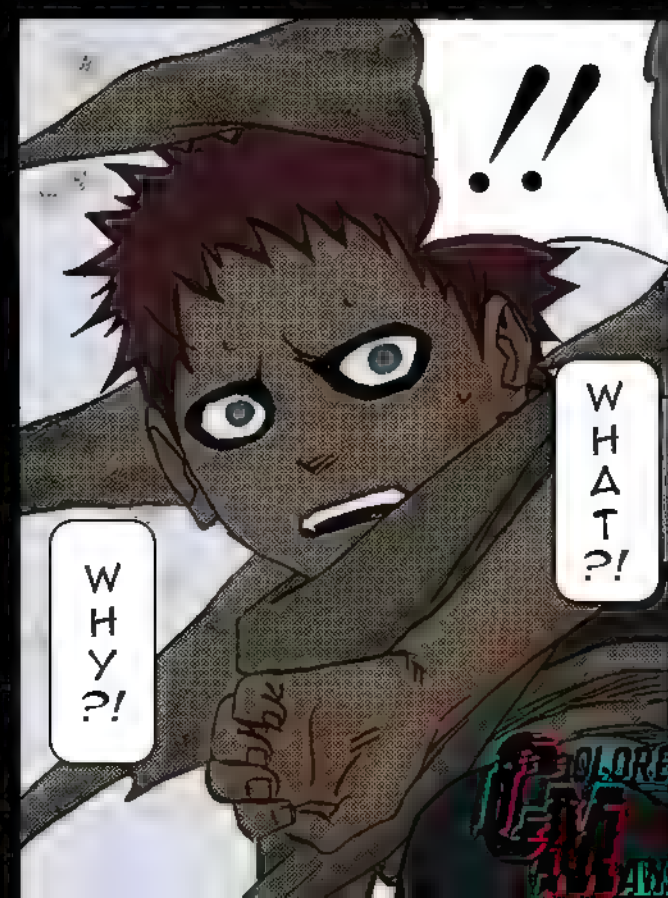
...YASHAMARU...

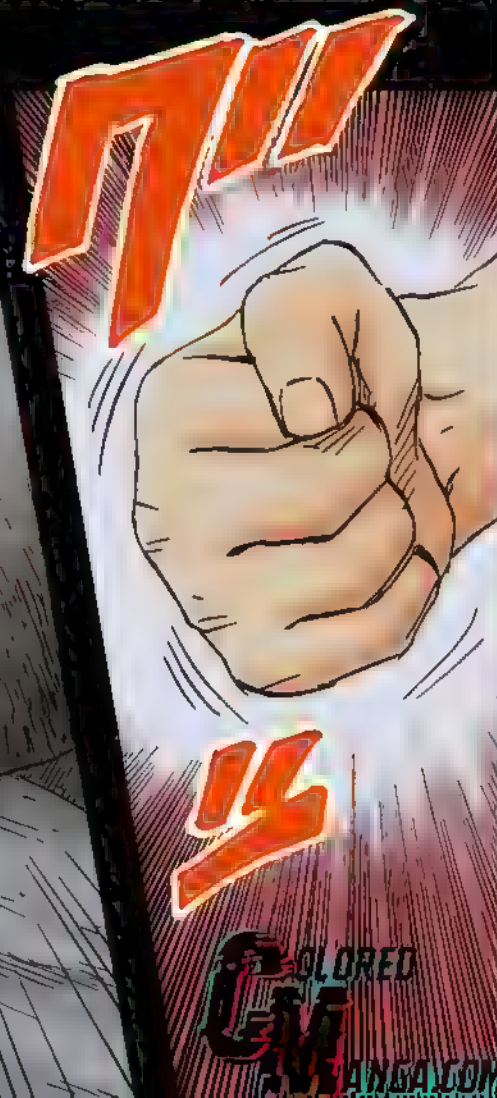
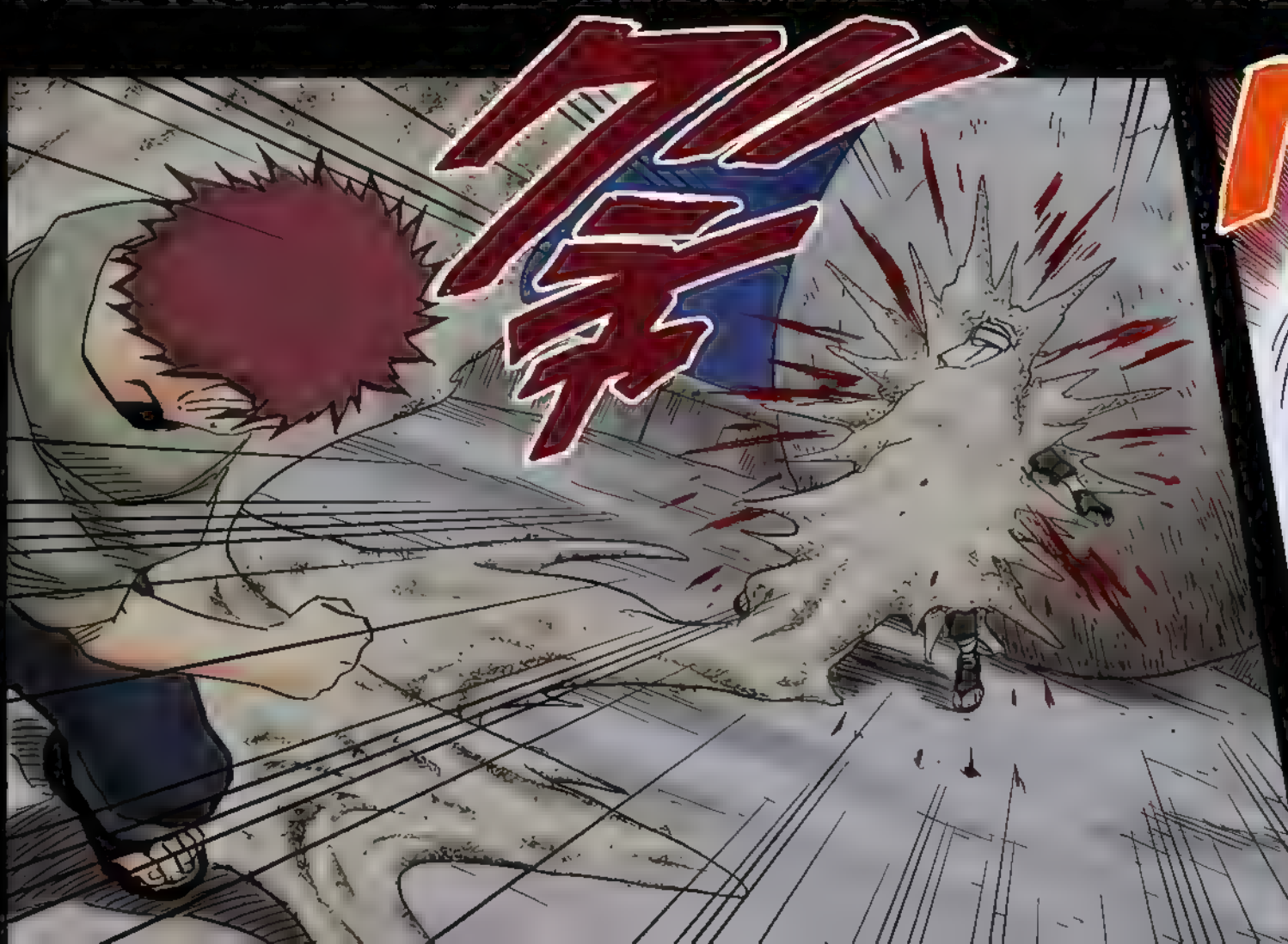
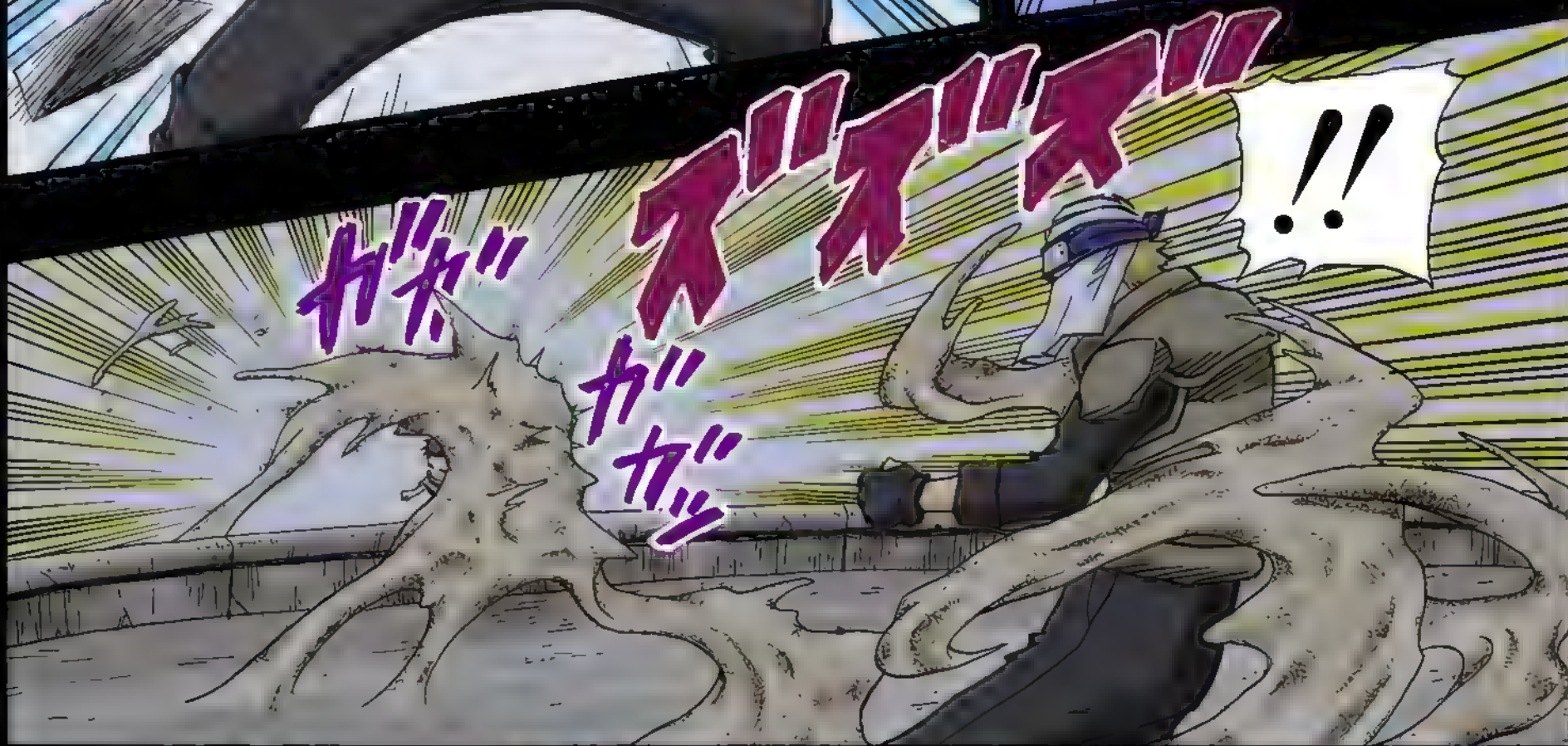
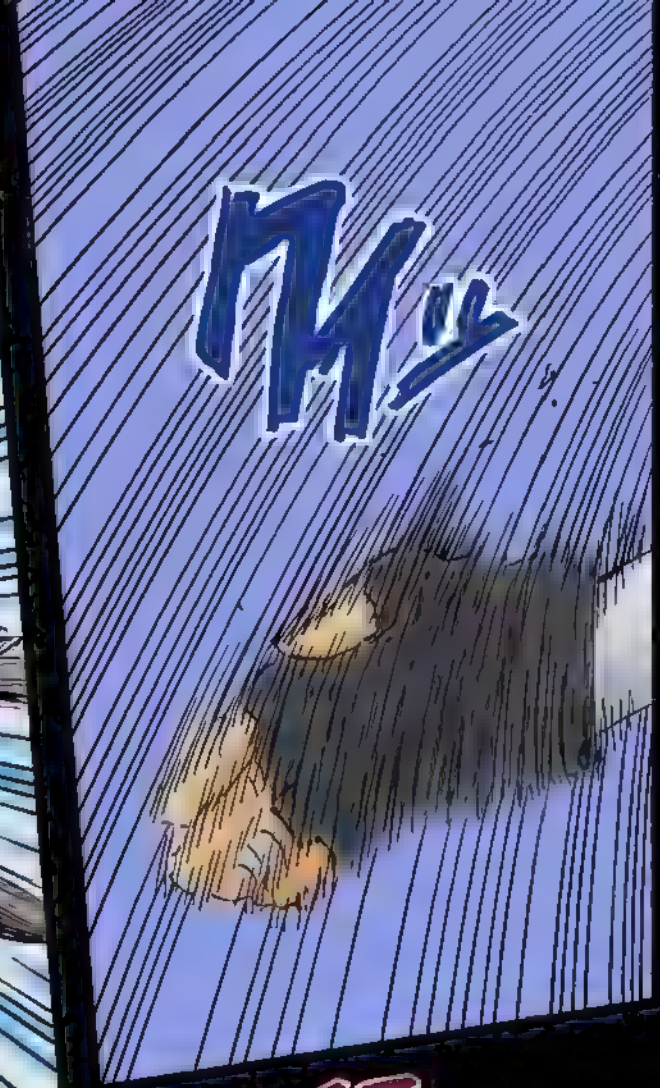
.....

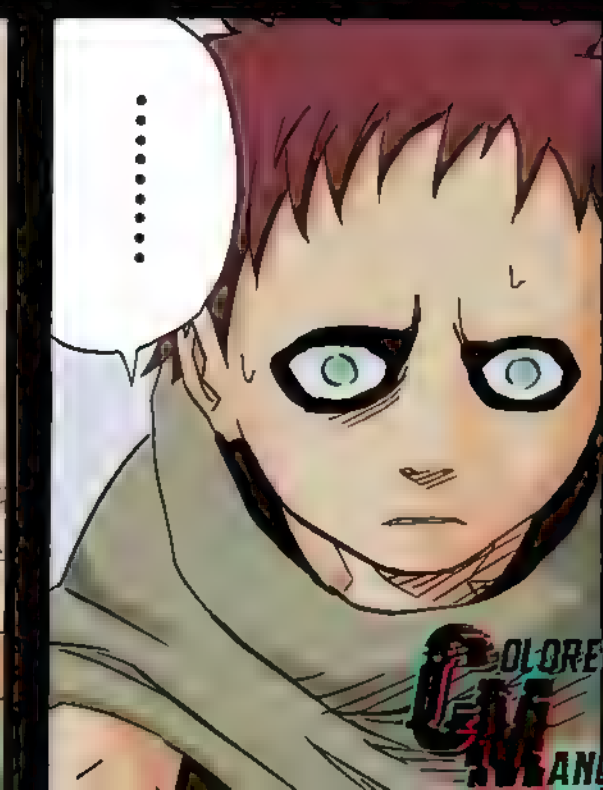
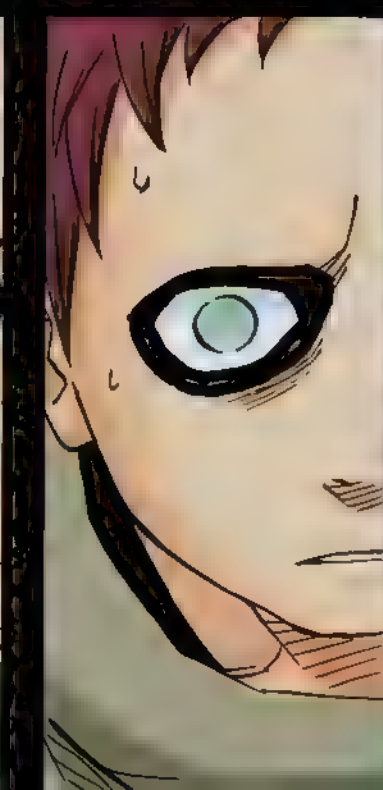
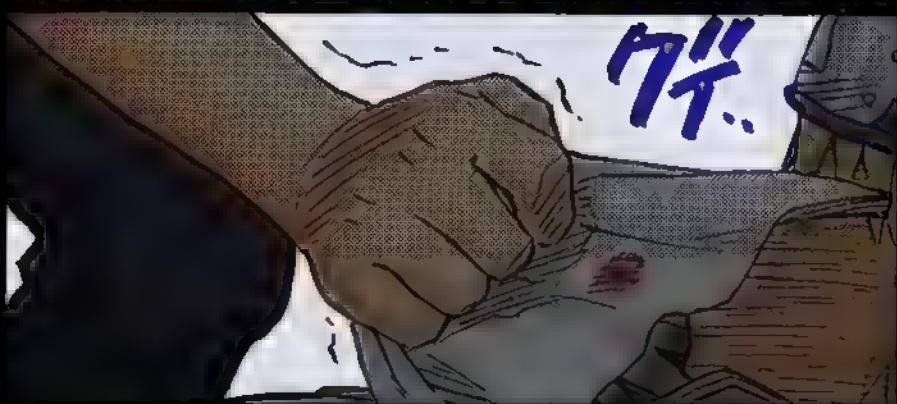
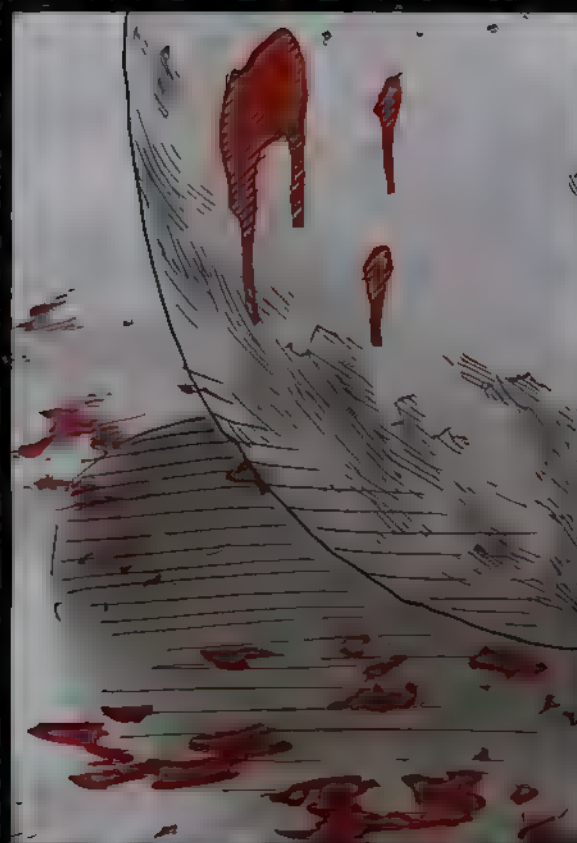
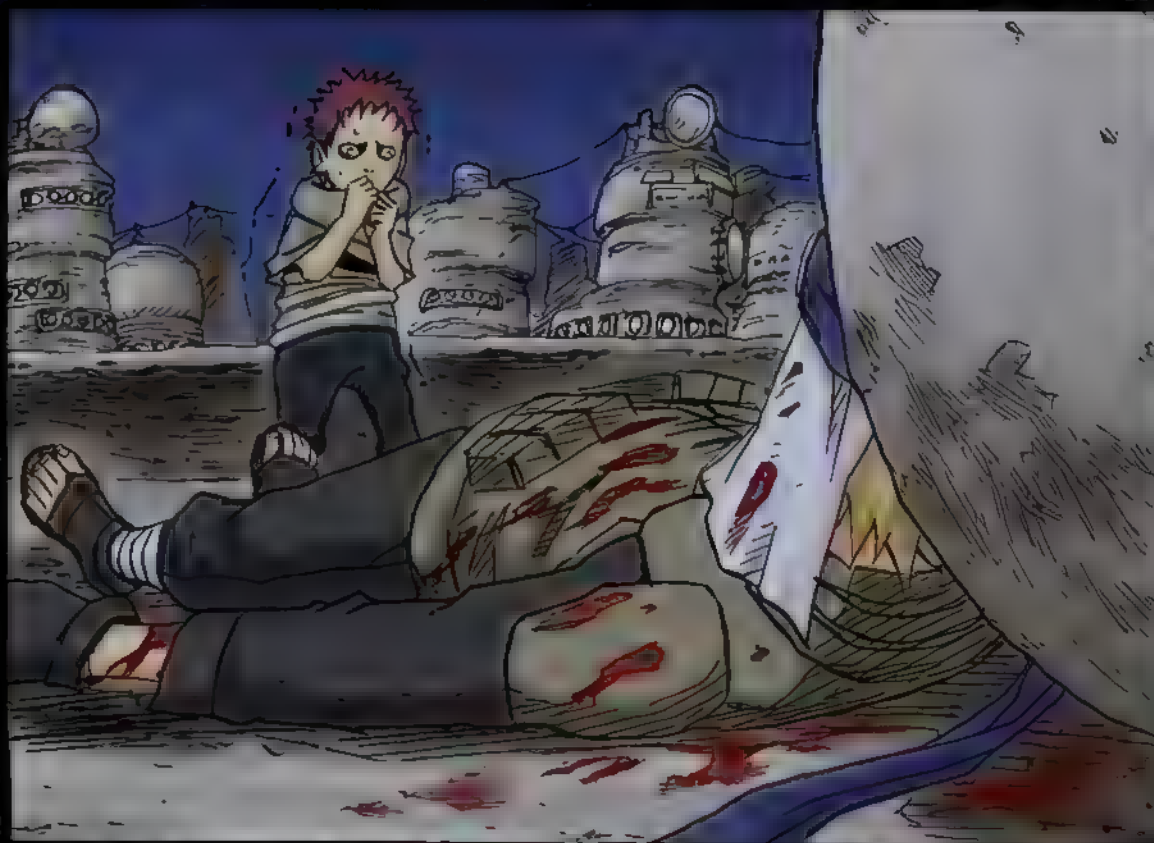


LOVE

THERE IS
JUST ONE
THING THAT
CAN EASE
THE
WOUNDS
OF THE
HEART.



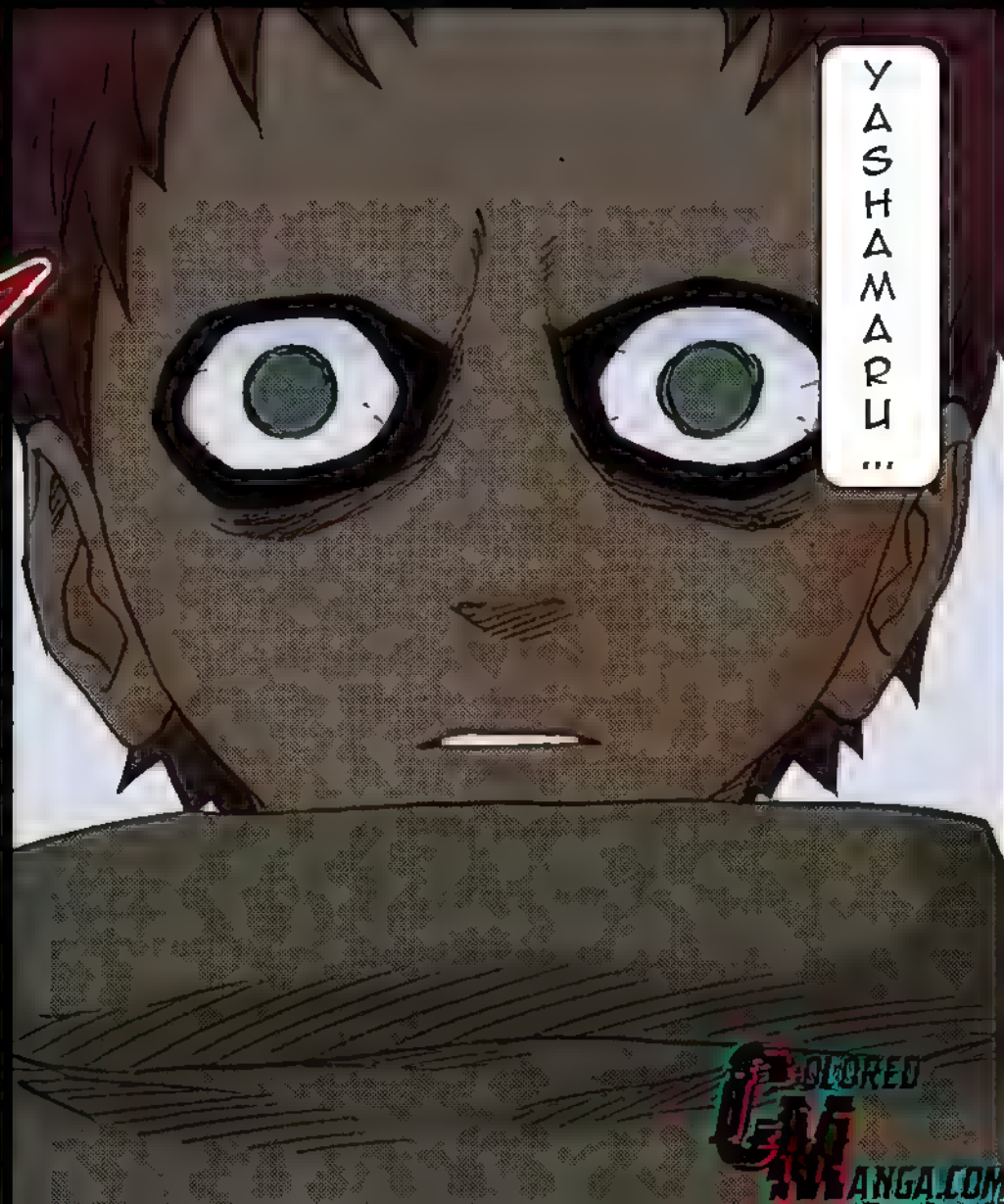




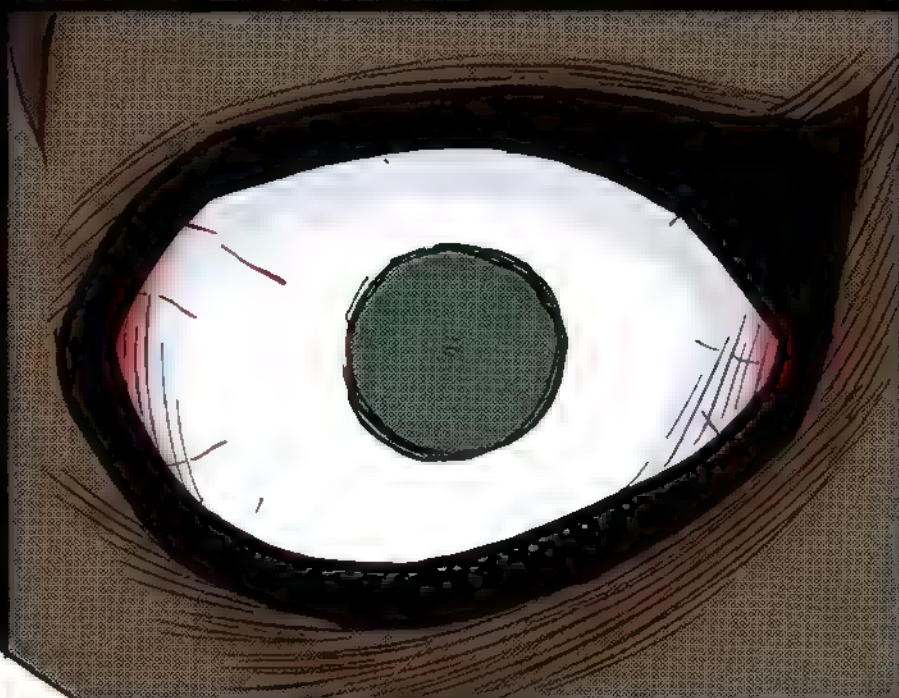
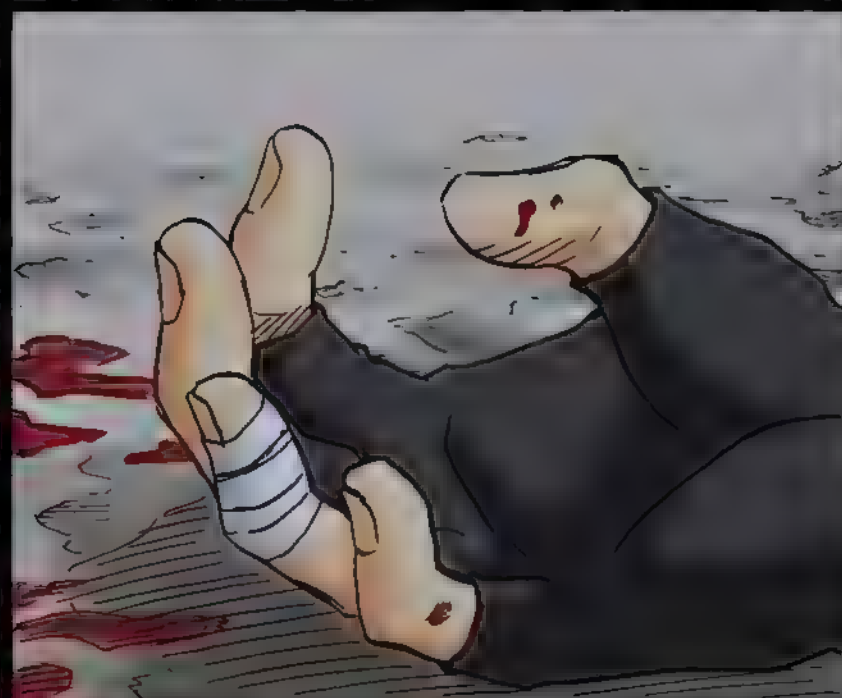


YOU
TRULY ARE
IMPRES-
SIVE...

LORD
GAARA...



Y A S H A M A R U
...



AA
AA
AA
RR
GG
HH

ナンバー



131:

ガ ア ラ
我愛羅と

な
いう名...!!

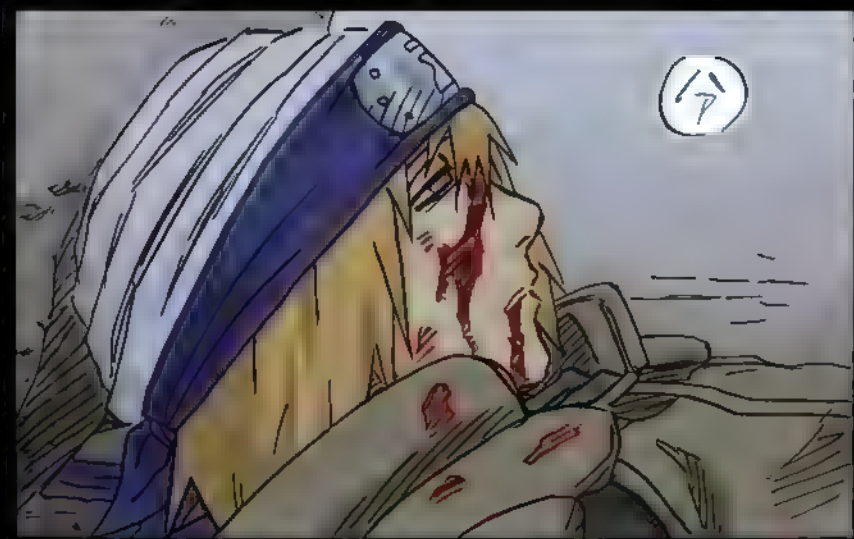
AA
AA
AA
RGH!!

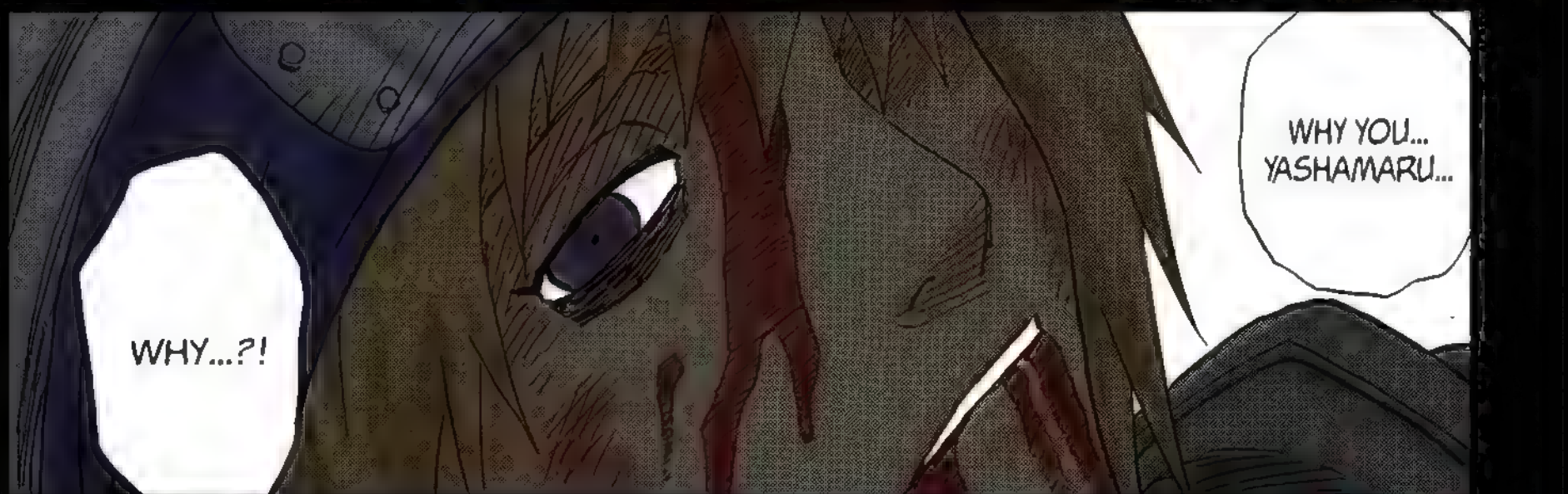
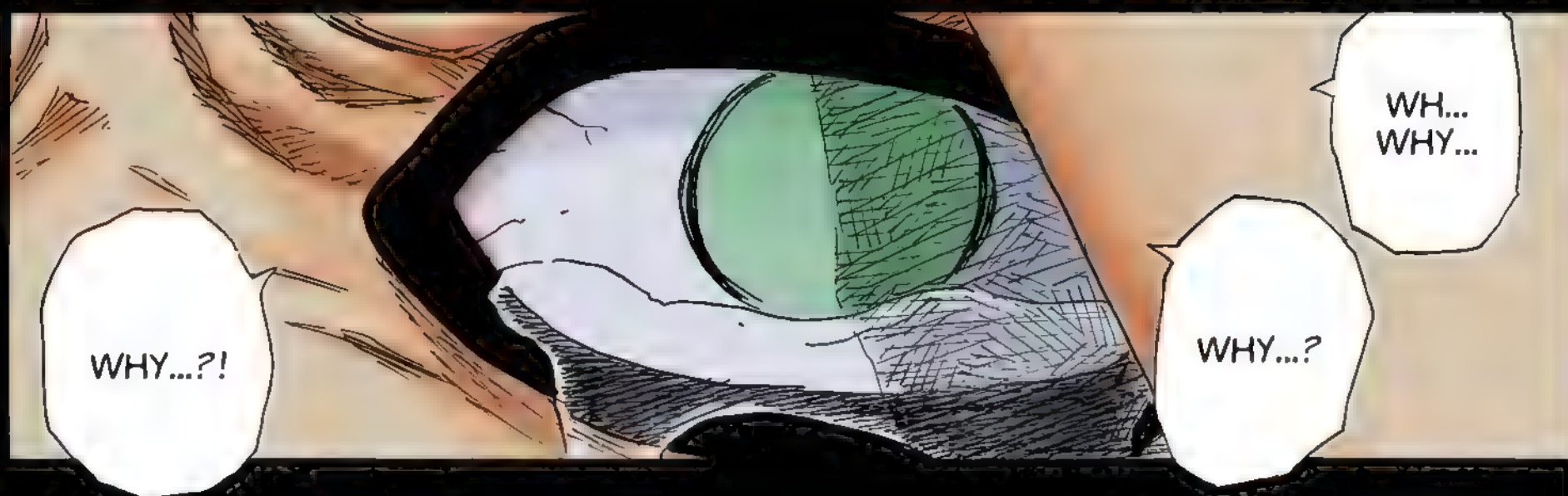


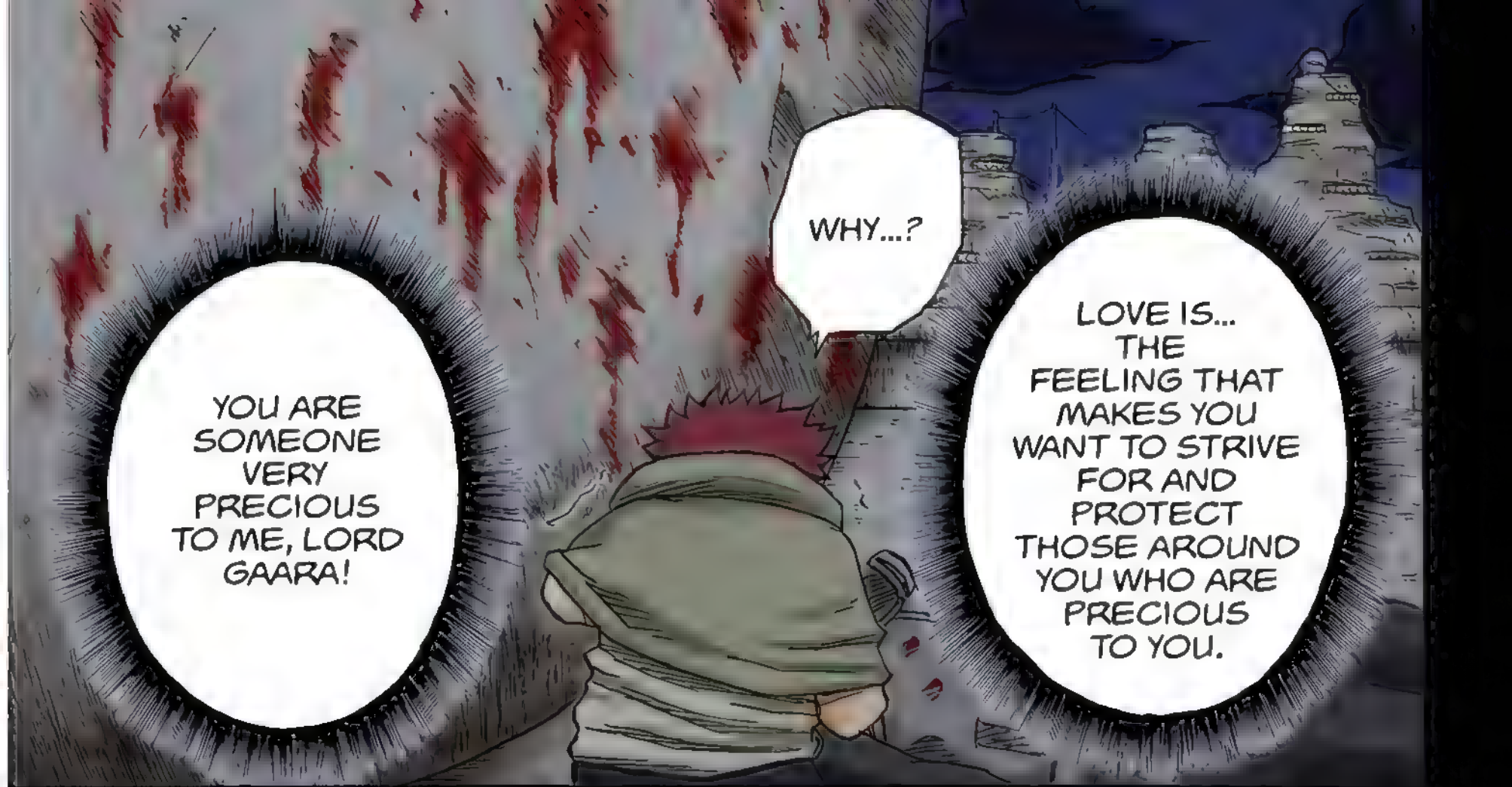
AAH...



AA...
AH...





A large panel showing Gaara from the chest up, his face partially obscured by his green headscarf. He has a red mark on his forehead. The background is dark and filled with numerous red blood splatters.

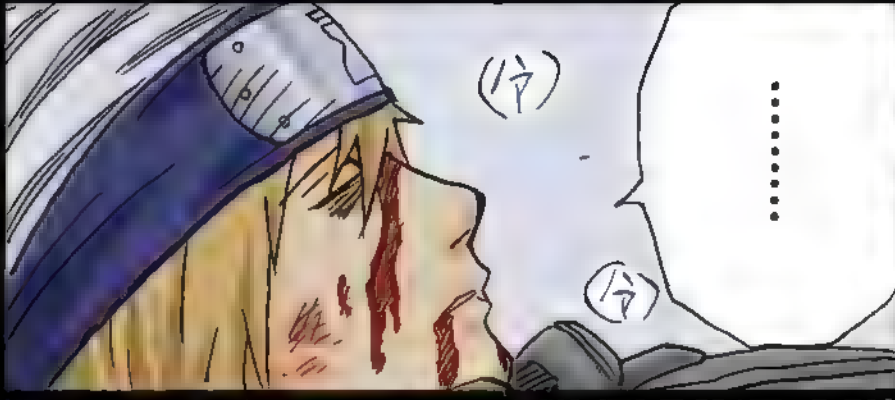
YOU ARE
SOMEONE
VERY
PRECIOUS
TO ME, LORD
GAARA!

WHY...?

LOVE IS...
THE
FEELING THAT
MAKES YOU
WANT TO STRIVE
FOR AND
PROTECT
THOSE AROUND
YOU WHO ARE
PRECIOUS
TO YOU.

A close-up of Gaara's face, showing blood smeared on his cheek and chin. He is looking down with a somber expression.

IT
WAS AN
ORDER.

A close-up of Gaara's face, looking upwards with a tearful expression. Blood is visible on his cheek.

YOU
WERE
THE
ONLY
ONE
WHO...
EVER
LOVED
ME...

YOU...

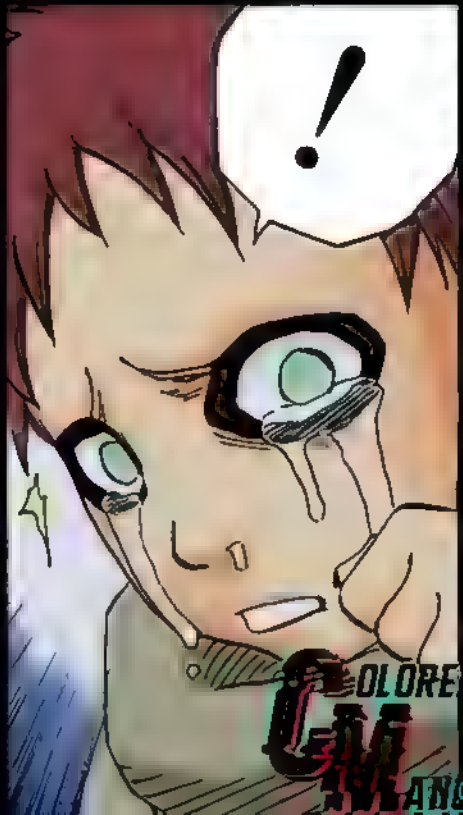
YOU
ALWAYS...

A very close-up of Gaara's right eye, which is green and looking directly forward with a shocked expression.

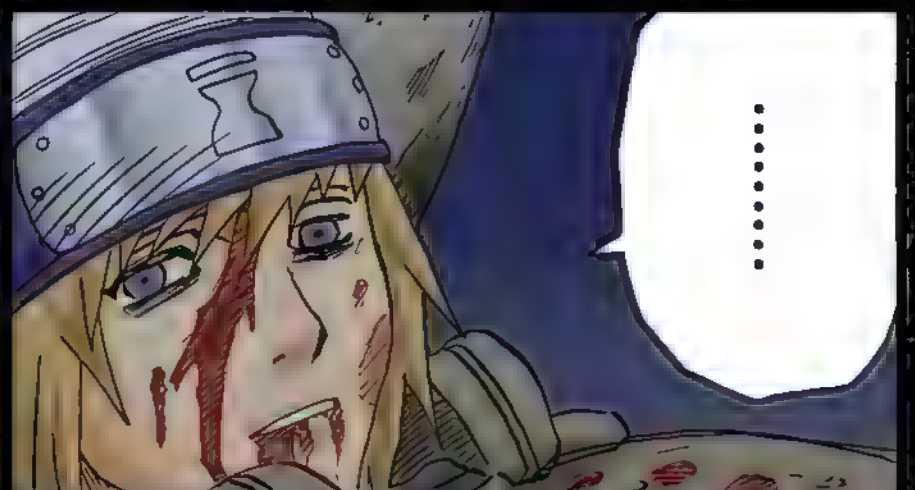
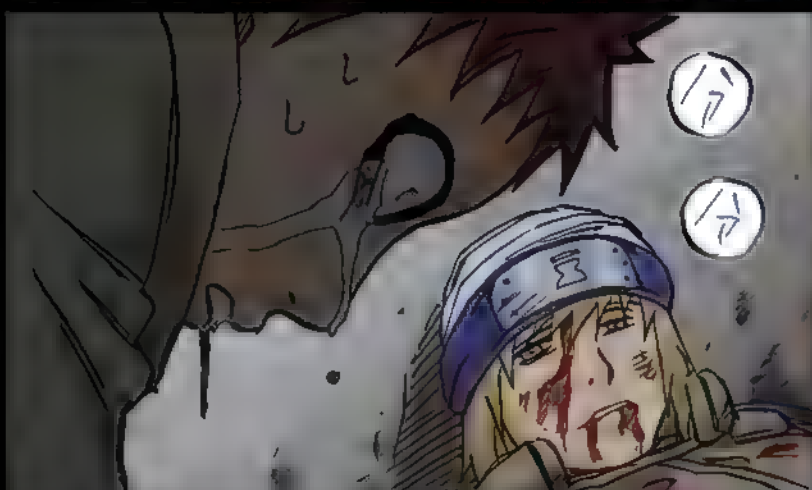
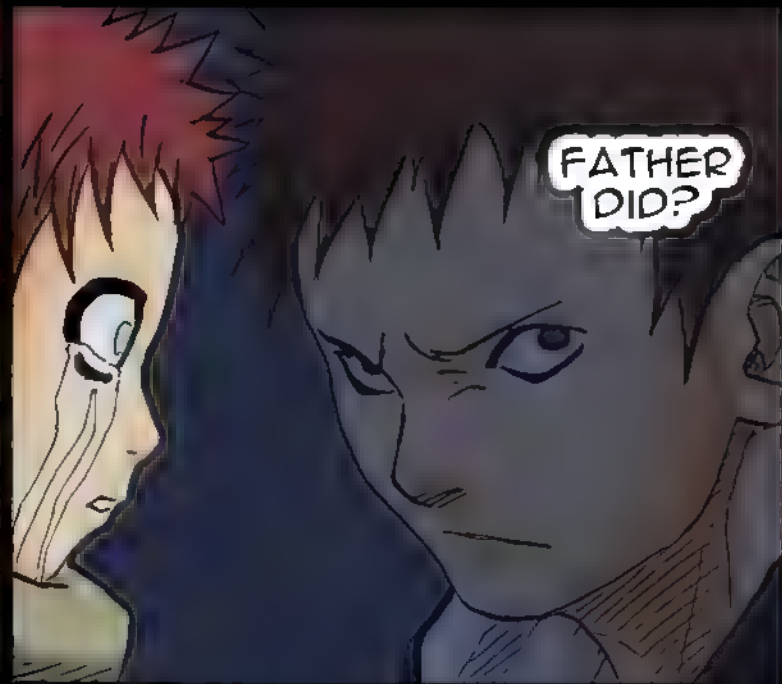
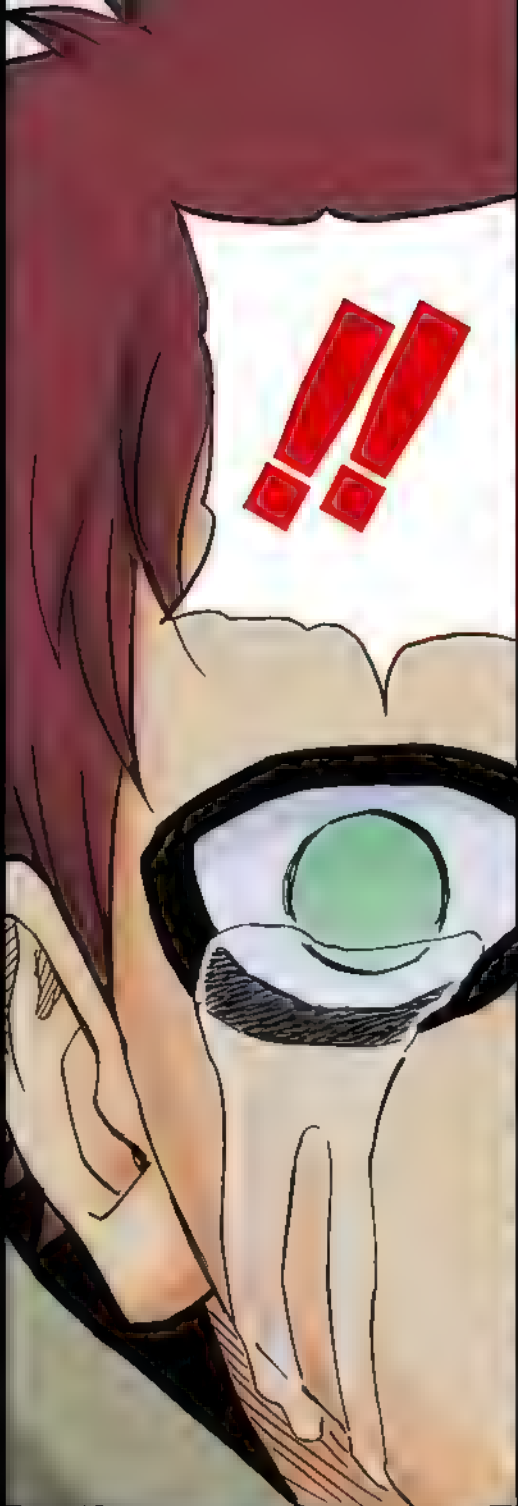
!?

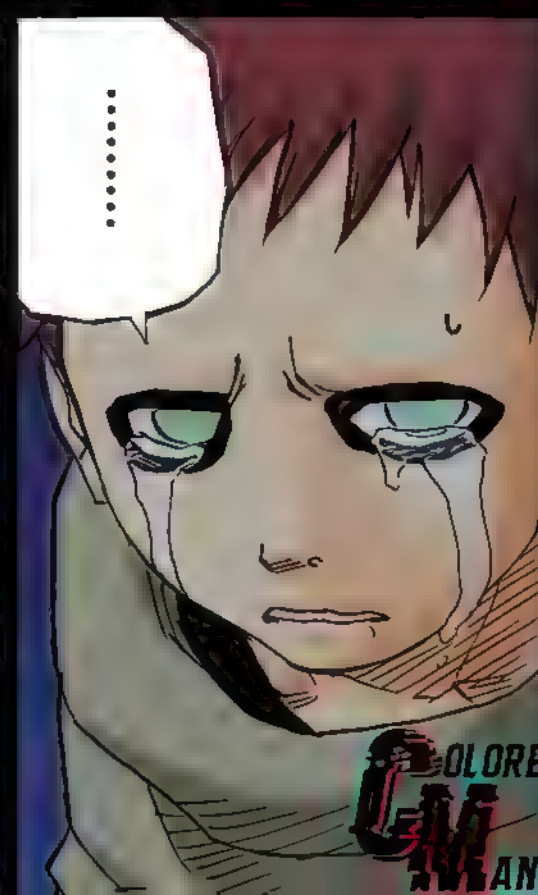
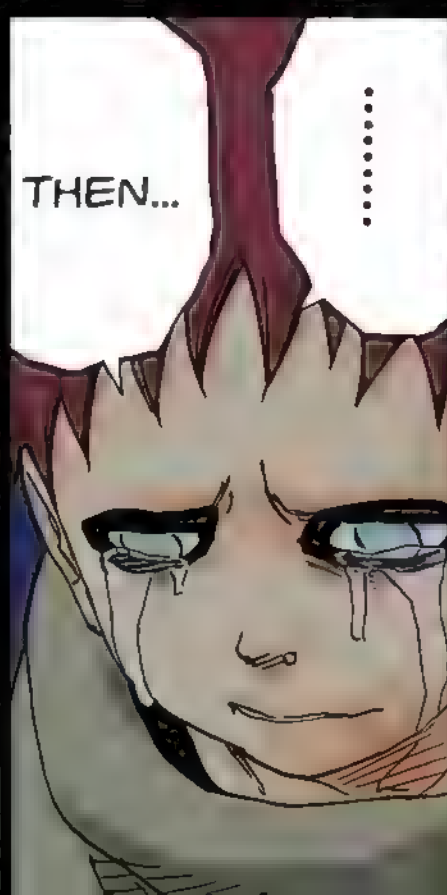
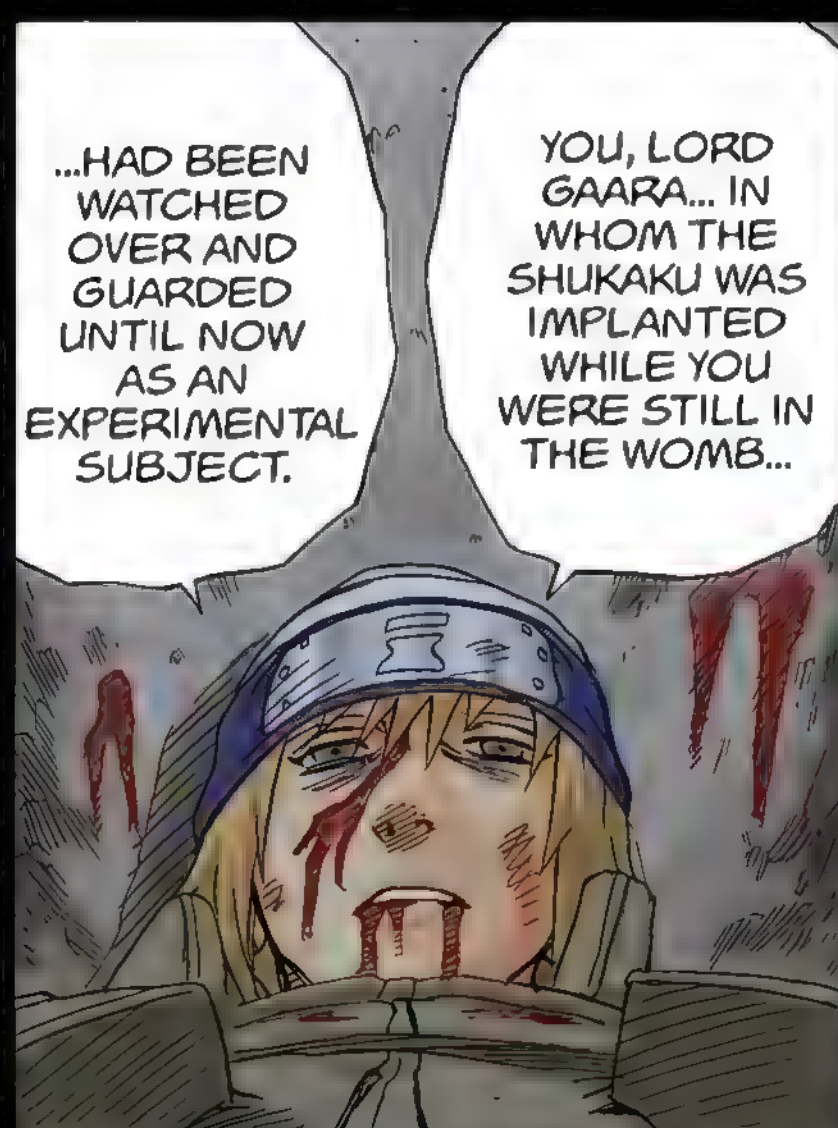
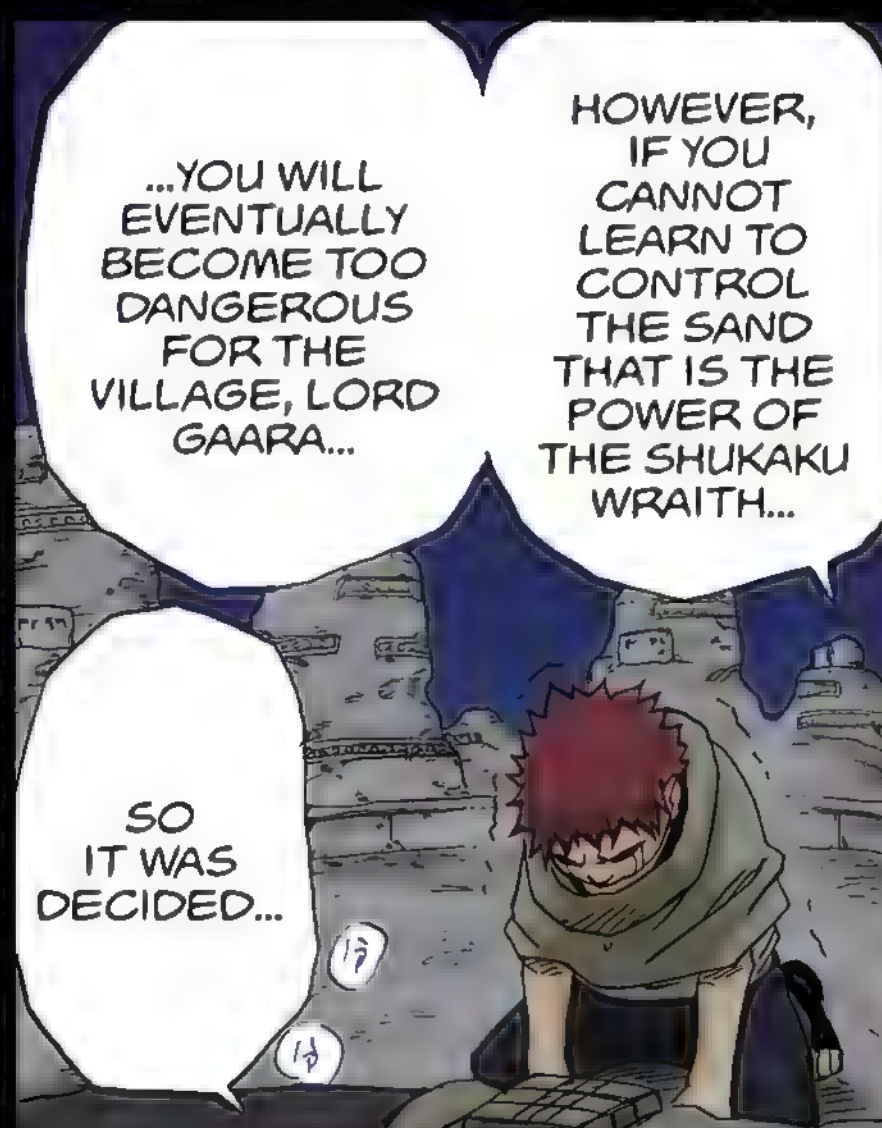
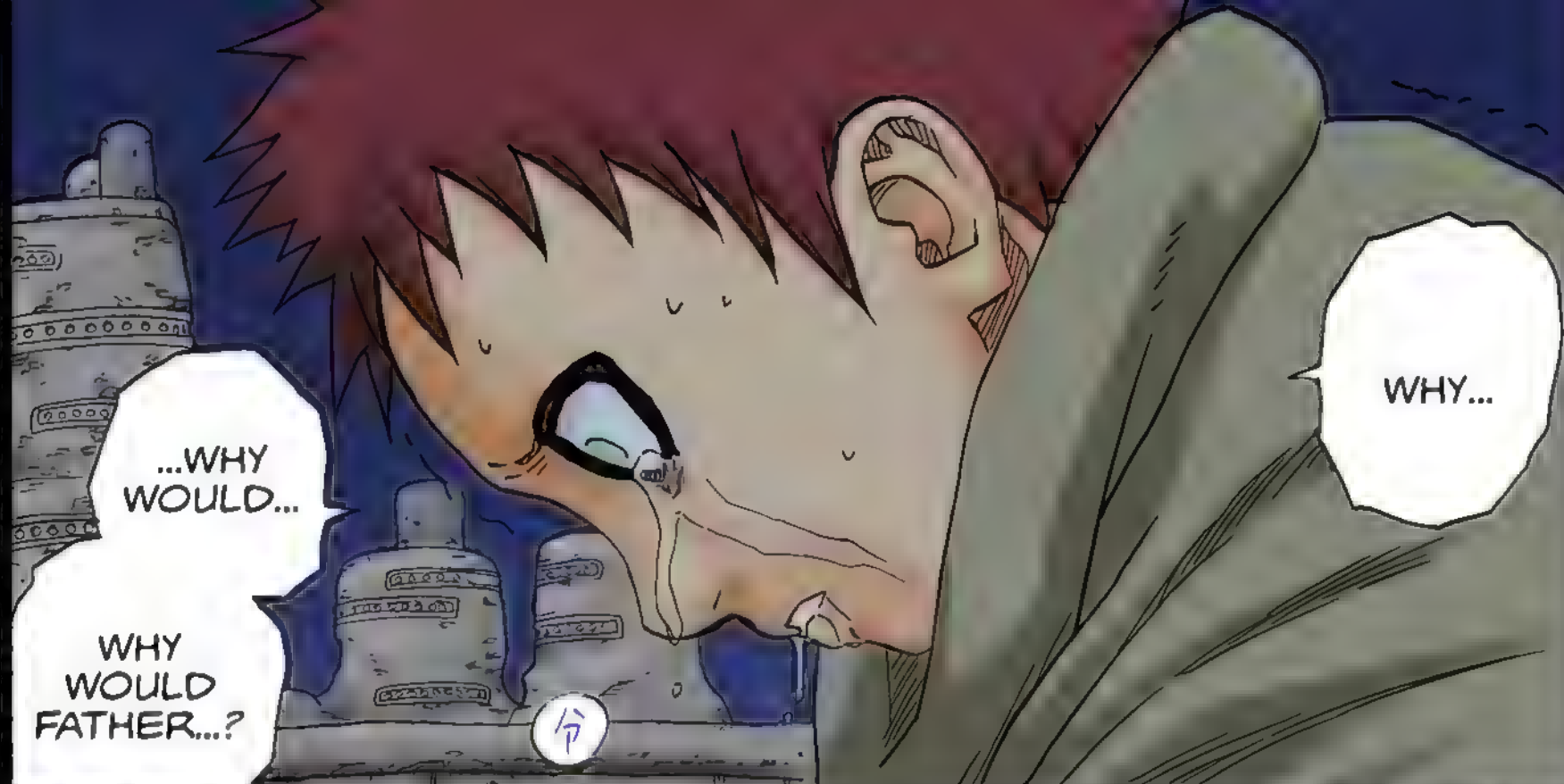
A close-up of Gaara's gloved hand, showing the texture of the glove and some blood on the palm.

I WAS
COMMIS-
SIONED TO
KILL YOU.

A close-up of Gaara's face, showing wide, green eyes and a shocked expression. He has a small tear on his cheek.

!

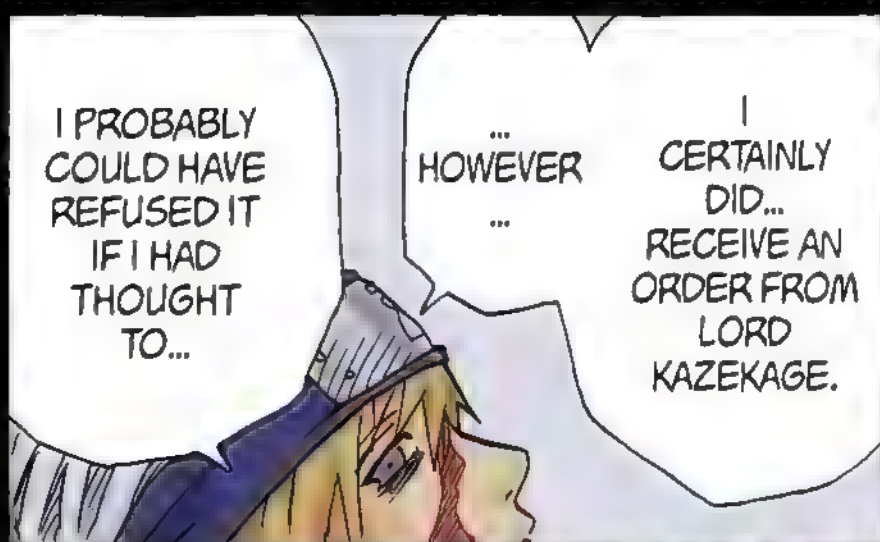






...THAT'S
NOT
ENTIRELY
TRUE...

NO...



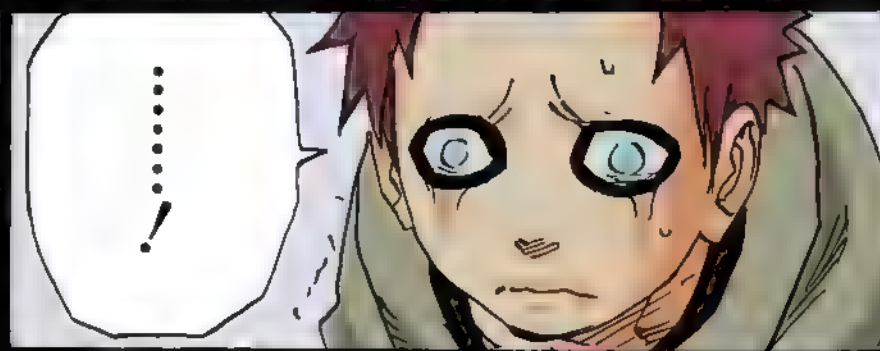
I PROBABLY
COULD HAVE
REFUSED IT
IF I HAD
THOUGHT
TO...

...
HOWEVER
...

I
CERTAINLY
DID...
RECEIVE AN
ORDER FROM
LORD
KAZEKAGE.



!!



.....
!

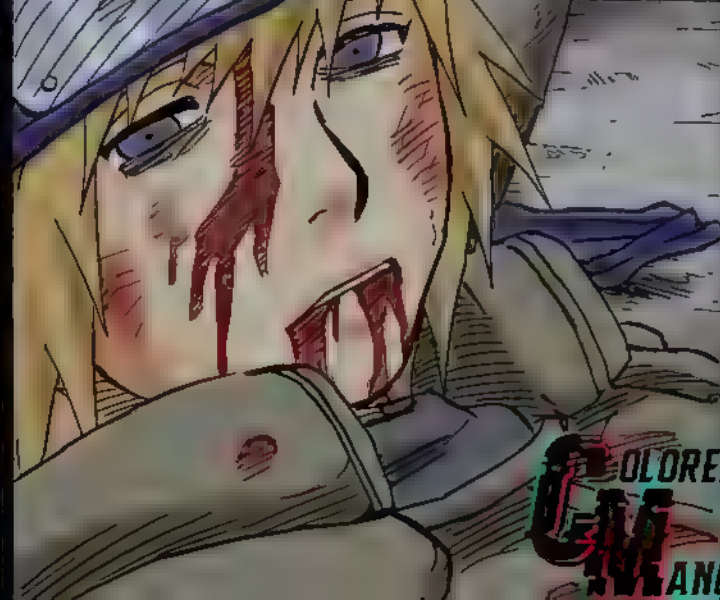
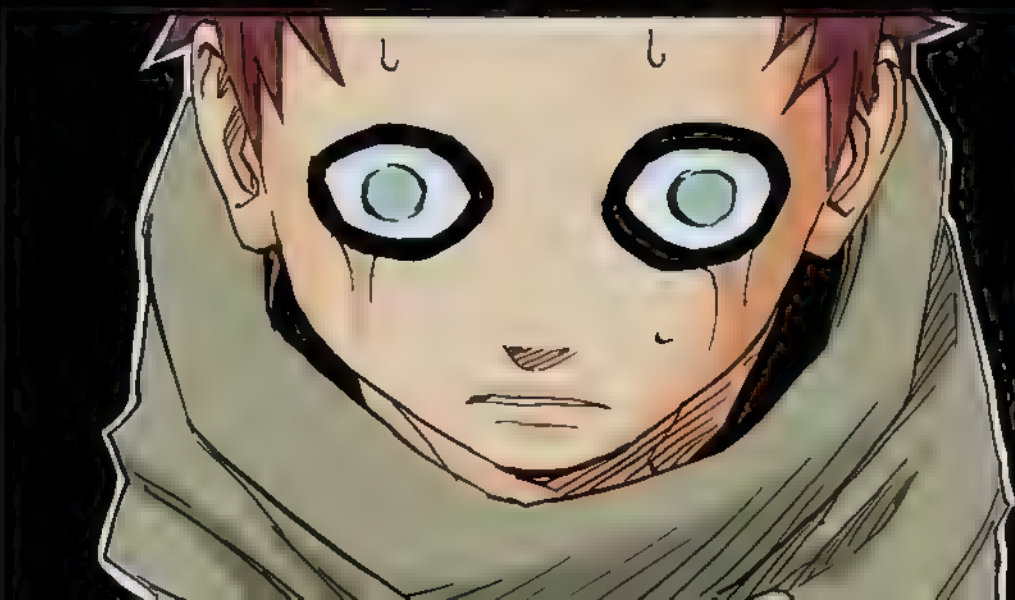
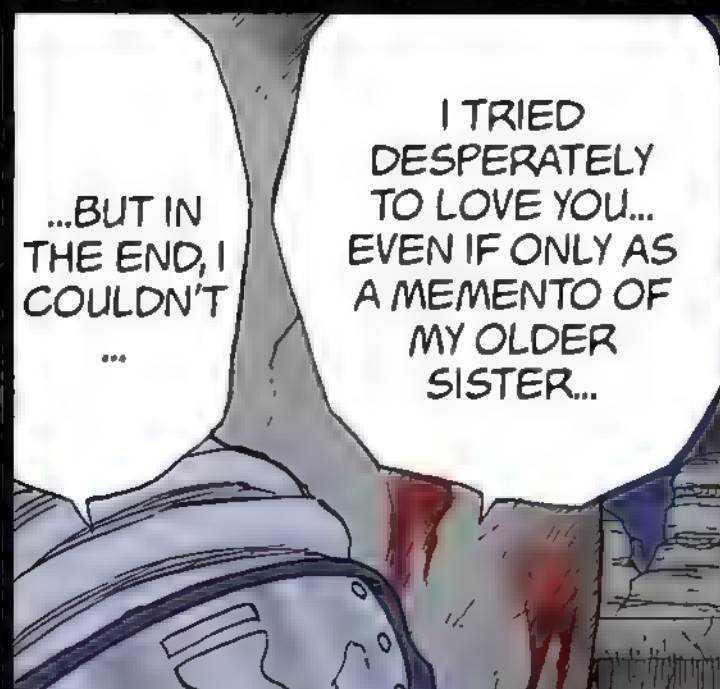
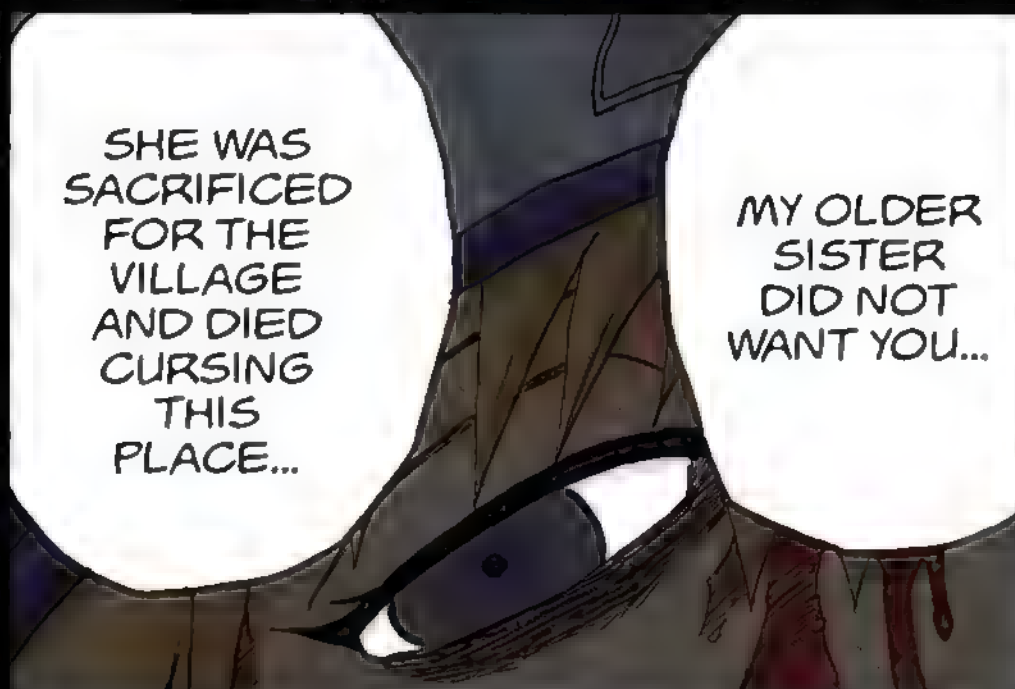
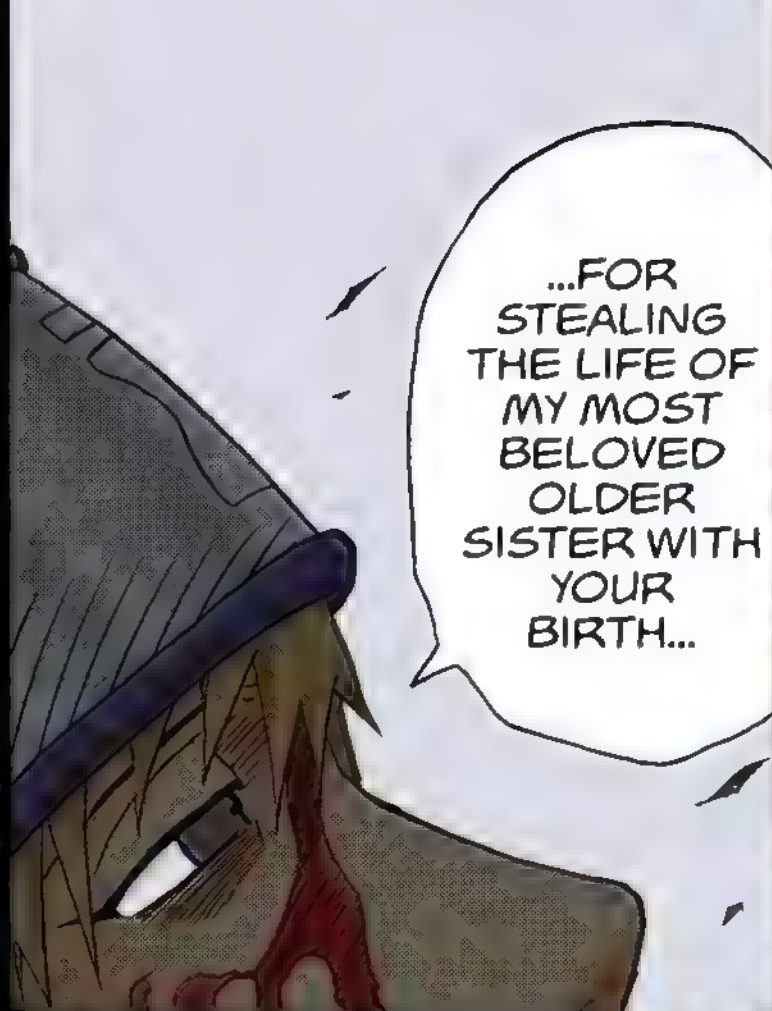


DEEP
DOWN
INSIDE... I
THINK I...

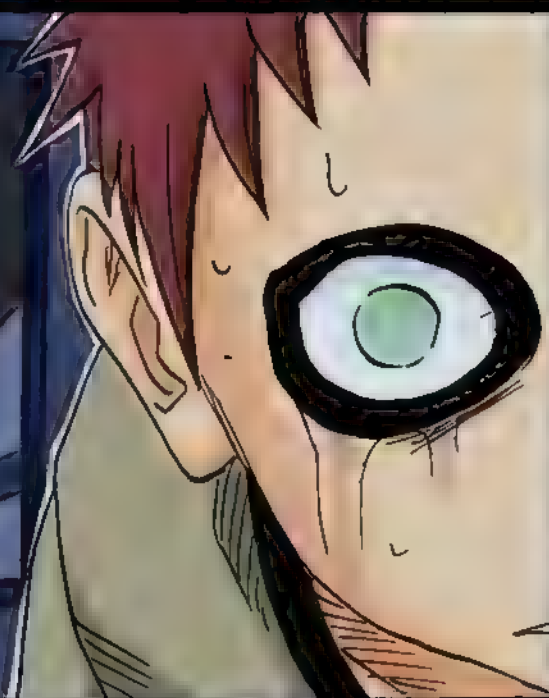
BUT
LORD
GAARA
...



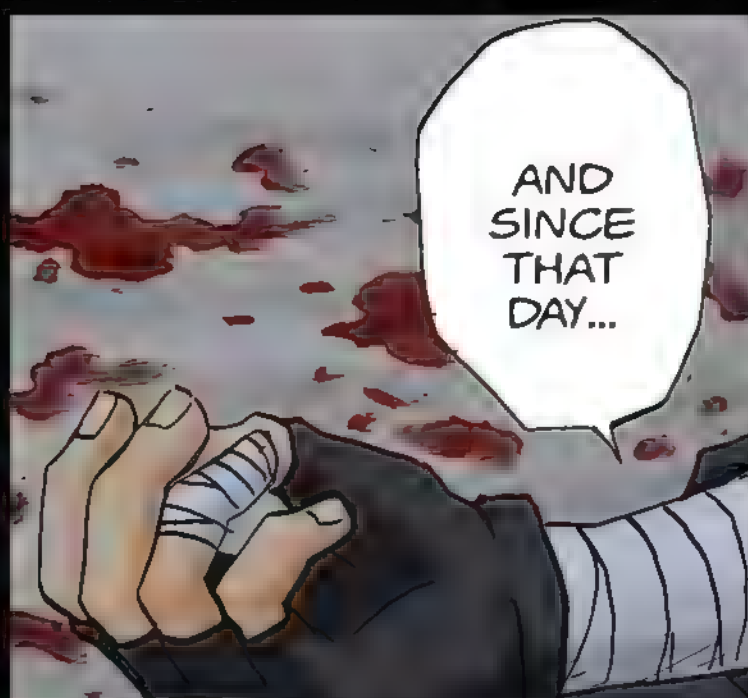
.....



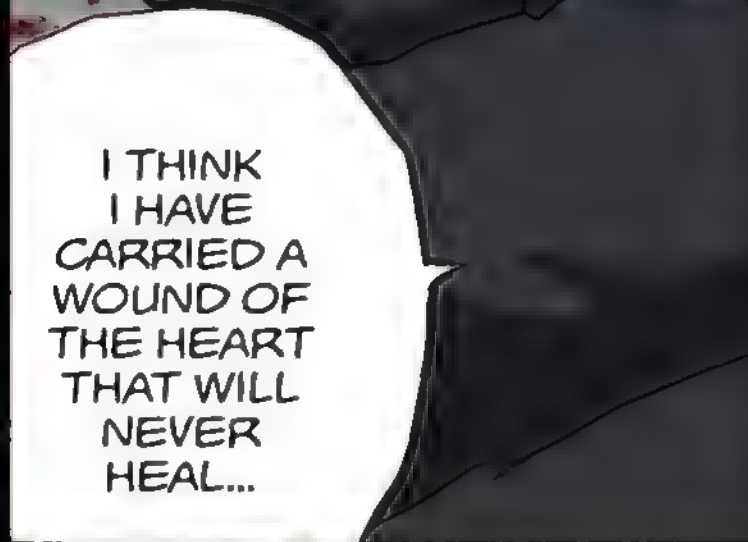
UNLIKE
WOUNDS OF
THE BODY,
THERE ARE
NO MEDICINES
THAT CAN HELP
THEM GET
BETTER... AND
SOMETIMES,
THEY NEVER
EVER HEAL.



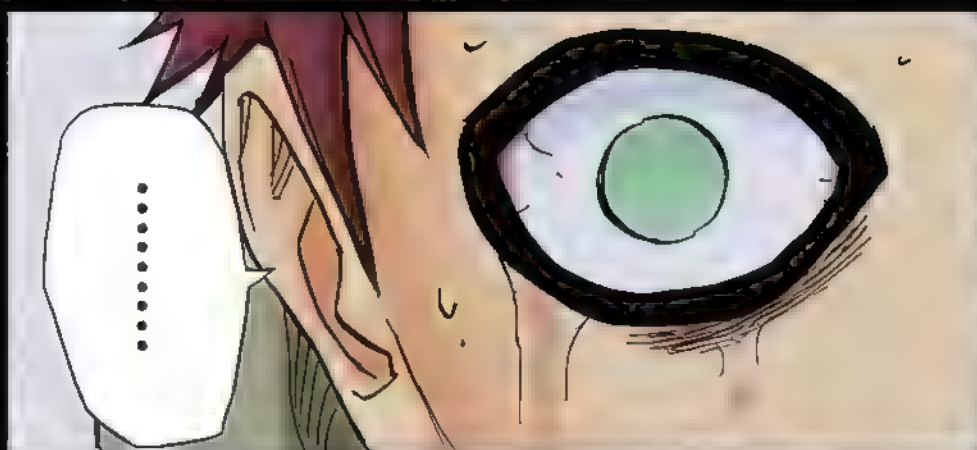
AND
SINCE
THAT
DAY...



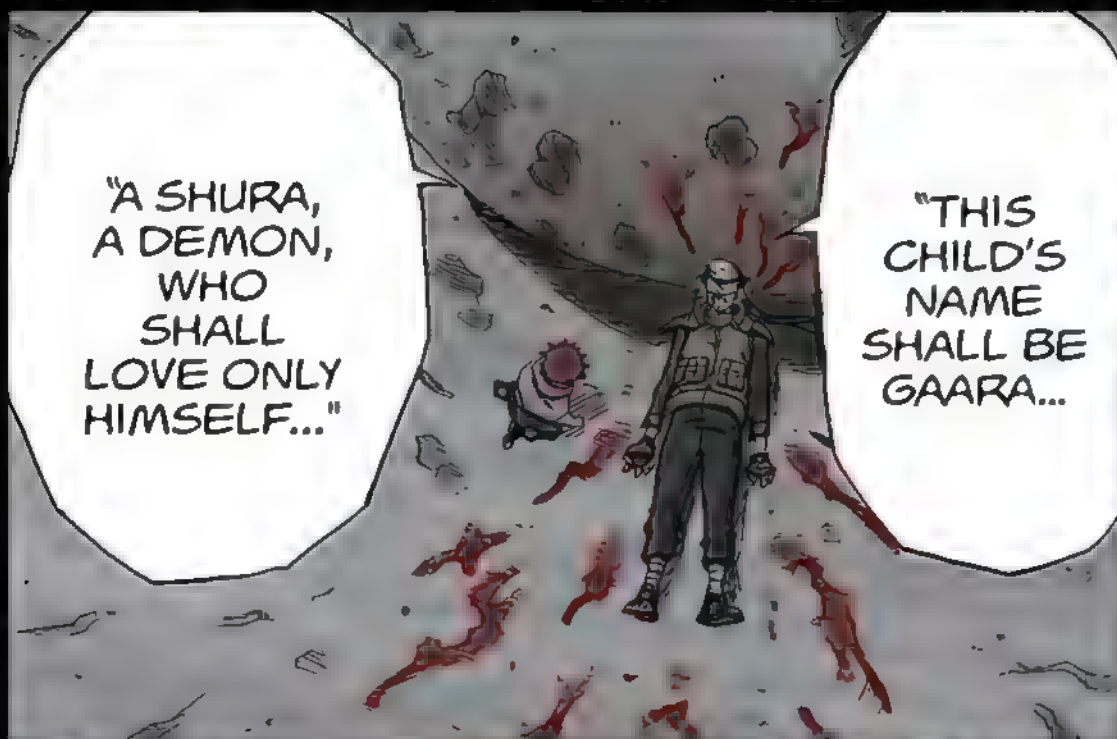
I THINK
I HAVE
CARRIED A
WOUND OF
THE HEART
THAT WILL
NEVER
HEAL...



...



"A SHURA,
A DEMON,
WHO
SHALL
LOVE ONLY
HIMSELF..."



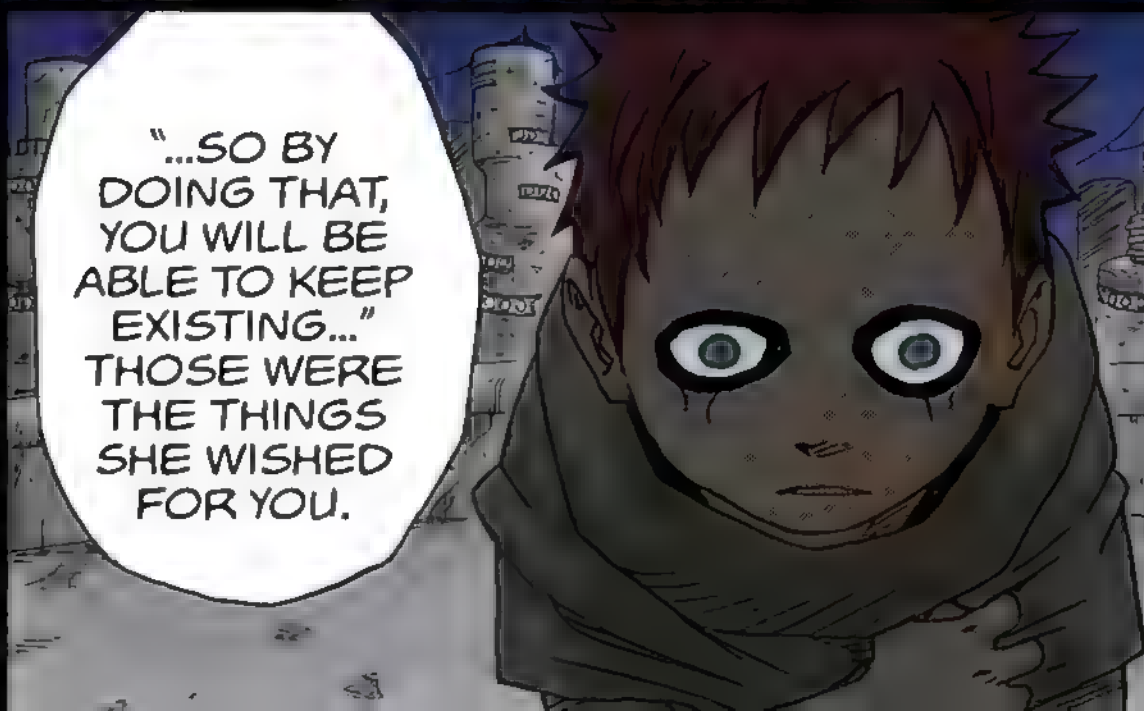
"THIS
CHILD'S
NAME
SHALL BE
GAARA..."

ELDER
SISTER...

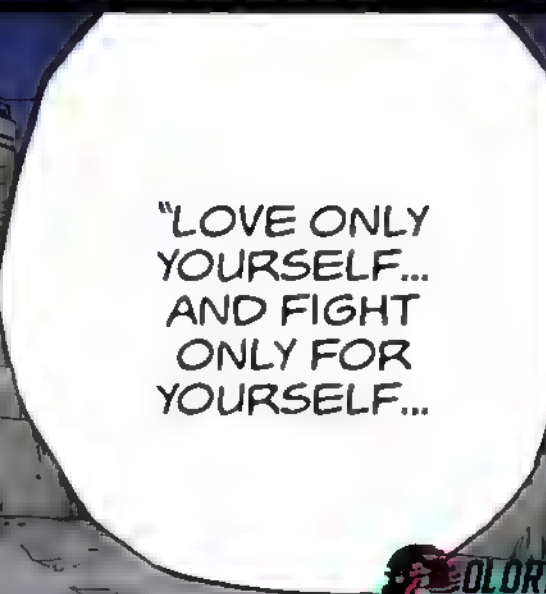
...GAVE
YOU
YOUR
NAME,
YOU
KNOW.



"...SO BY
DOING THAT,
YOU WILL BE
ABLE TO KEEP
EXISTING..."
THOSE WERE
THE THINGS
SHE WISHED
FOR YOU.



"LOVE ONLY
YOURSELF...
AND FIGHT
ONLY FOR
YOURSELF..."



...A
REMINDER
OF HER
HATRED, OF
HOW SHE WENT
TO HER DEATH
LOATHING AND
CURSING THE
WORLD...
REMIND THEM...
AND SHOW
THEM ALL...!

SHE GAVE YOU
THAT NAME SO
THAT YOU
WOULD SURVIVE
AND BE A
REMINDER TO
THE WORLD ...

HOWEVER...
ELDER
SISTER DID
NOT NAME
YOU THUS...

...BECAUSE
SHE LOVED
OR
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU...

NO, YOU
WERE
NEVER
LOVED...!

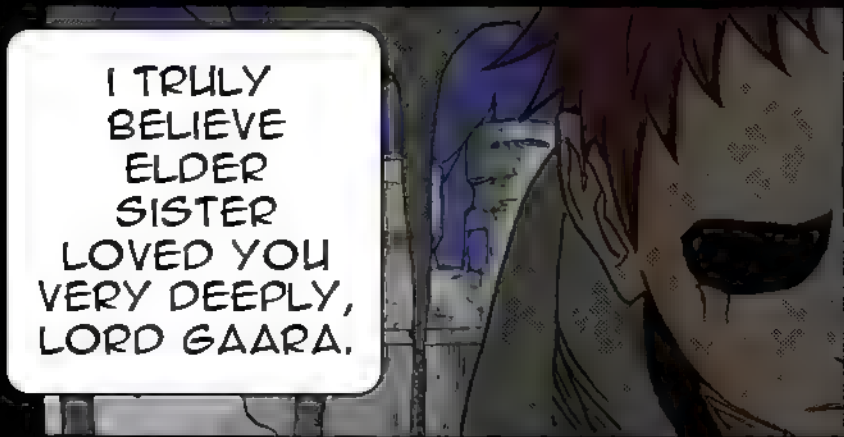
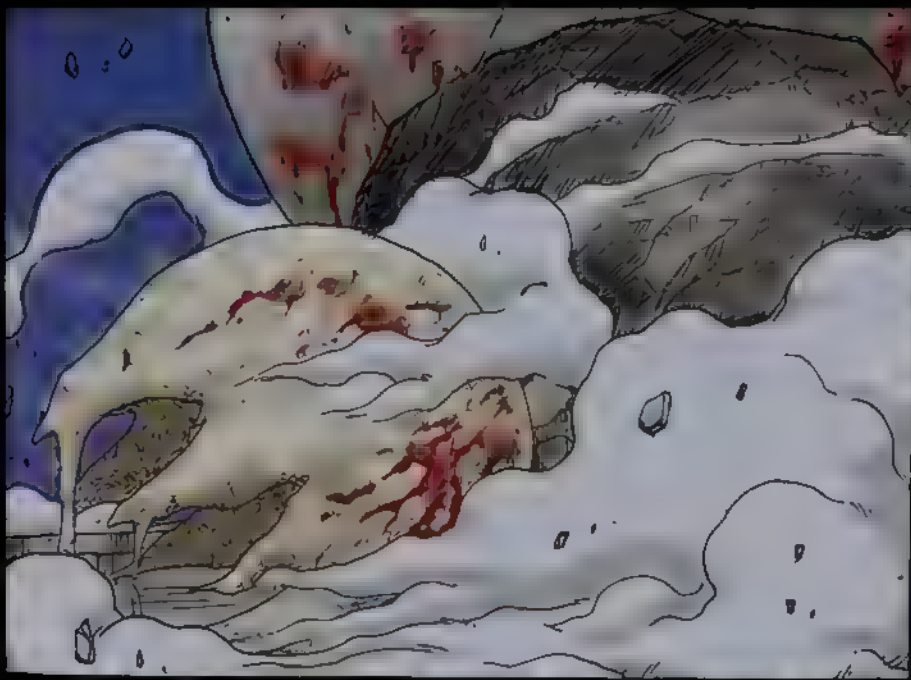
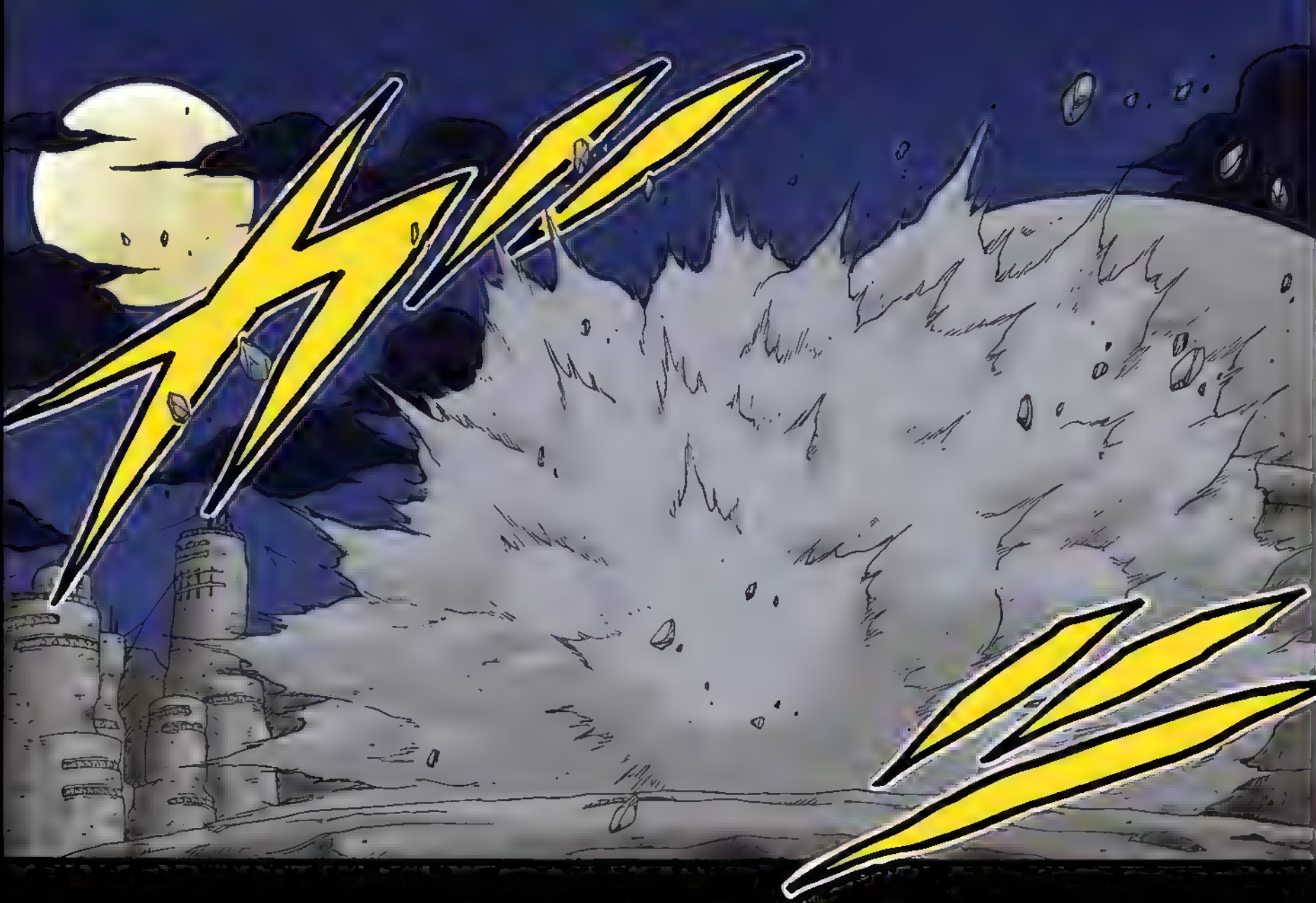
PLEASE
DIE
WITH
ME...

AND
NOW...

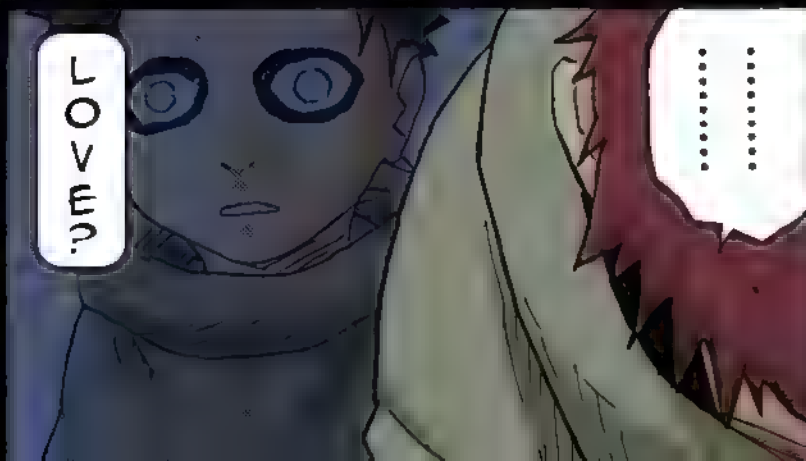
ニハヤウ...

77

.....



I TRULY
BELIEVE
ELDER
SISTER
LOVED YOU
VERY DEEPLY,
LORD GAARA.



うん。

.....



はっ

LOVE .

AAAAH
--!!

I THINK
THAT YOUR
MOTHER'S
WILL HAS
SEEPED
INTO THAT
SAND.

WHEN THE
SAND TRIES
TO PROTECT
YOU, I
BELIEVE
IT'S AN
EXPRESSION
OF
MATERNAL
LOVE.

...UNH...
...AAH...

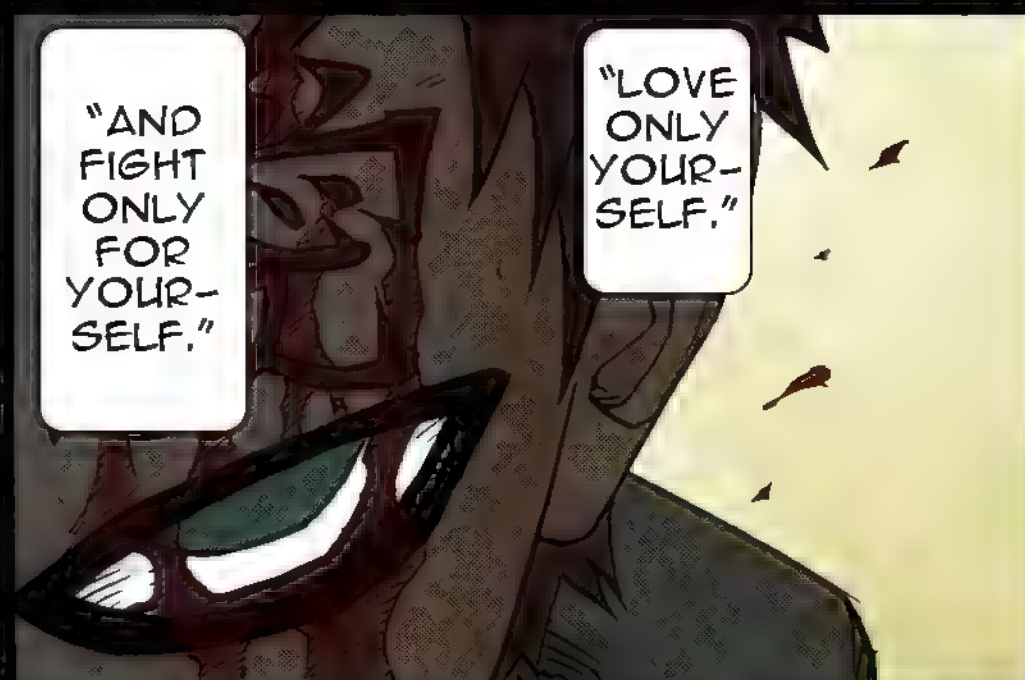


RRRRRRRR
!!!



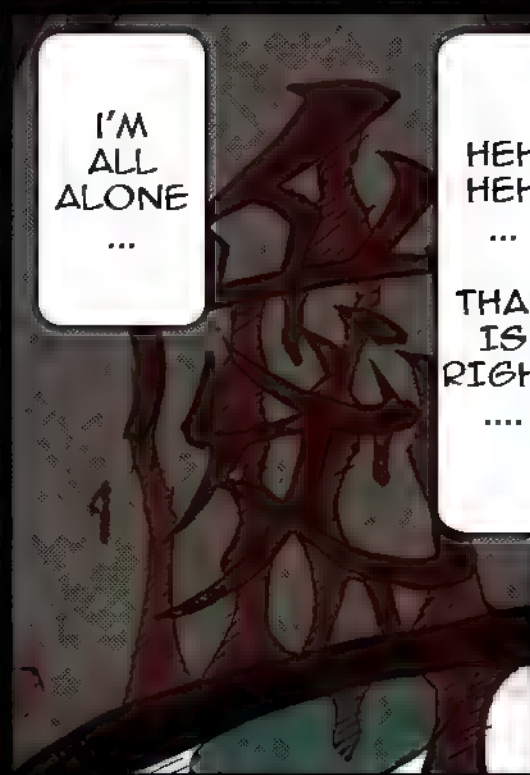
ME...

SO
THAT'S
GAARA.



"AND
FIGHT
ONLY
FOR
YOUR-
SELF."

"LOVE
ONLY
YOUR-
SELF."



I'M
ALL
ALONE
...

HEH
HEH
...
THAT
IS
RIGHT
....



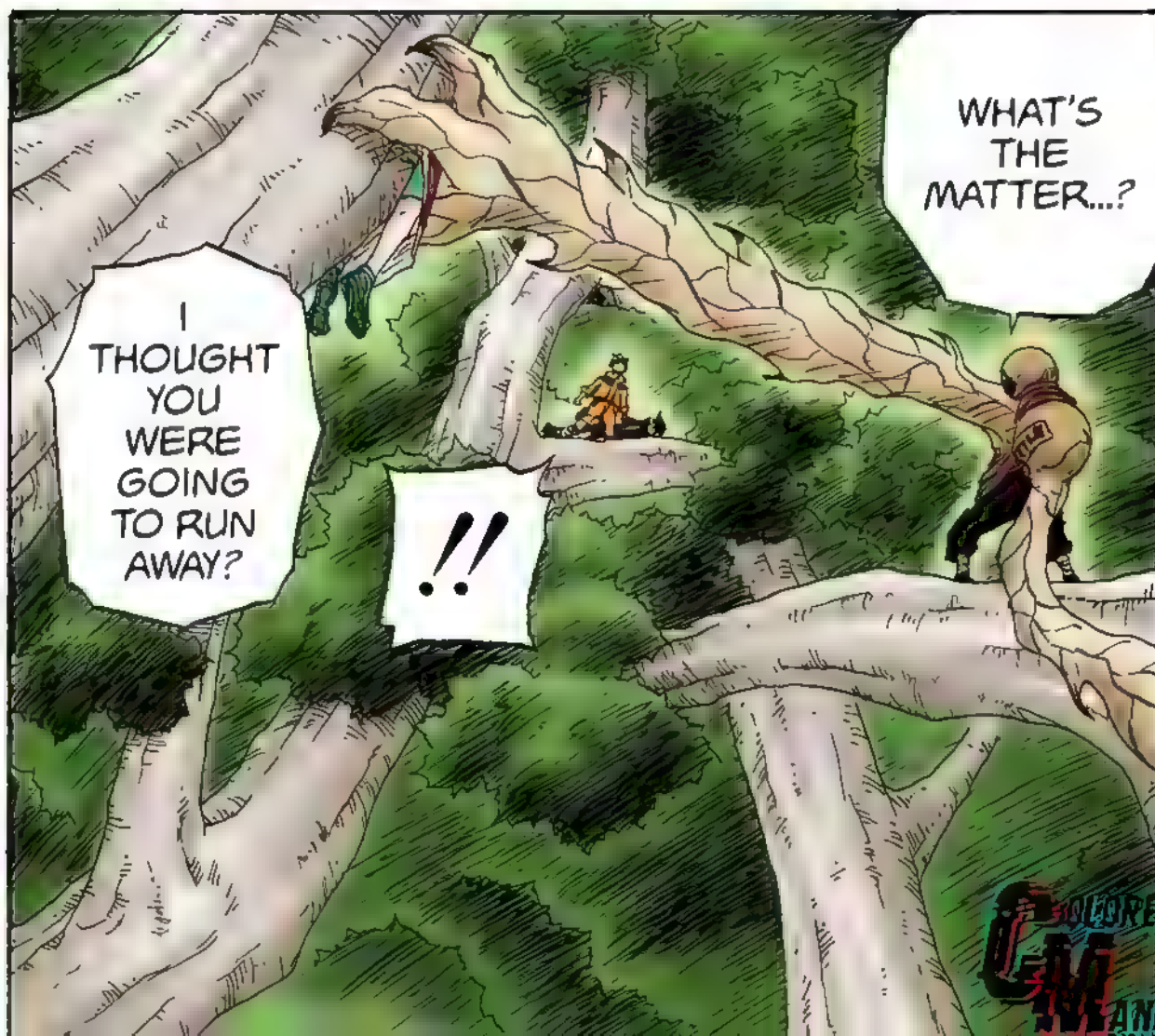
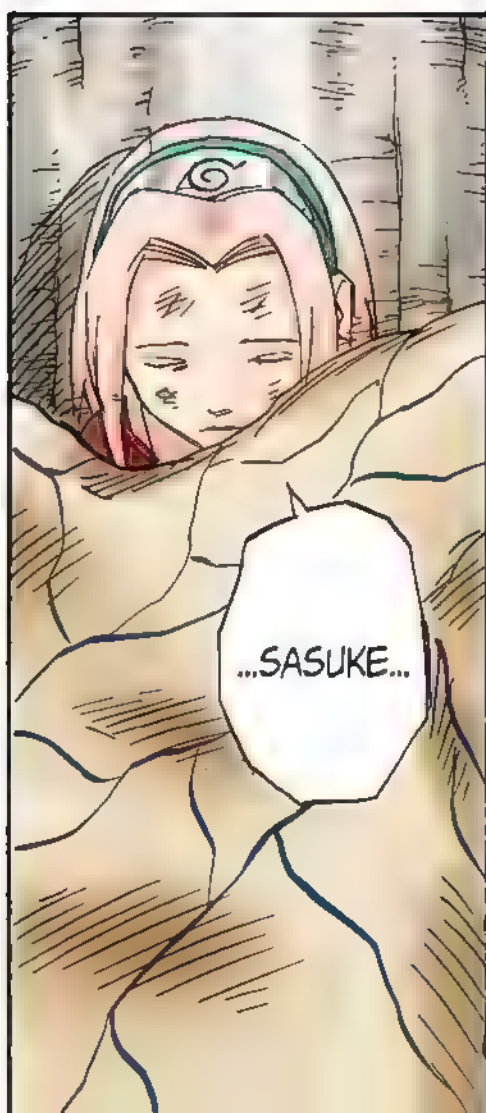
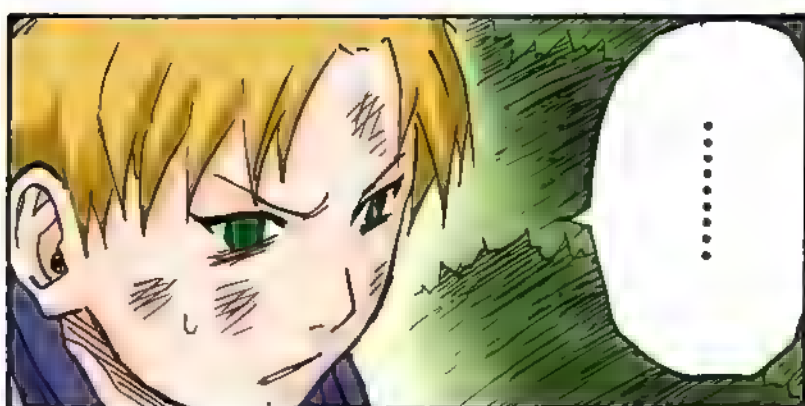
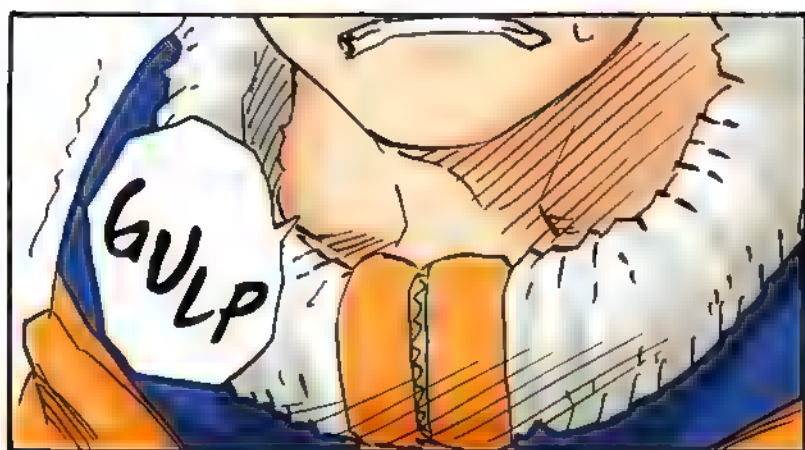
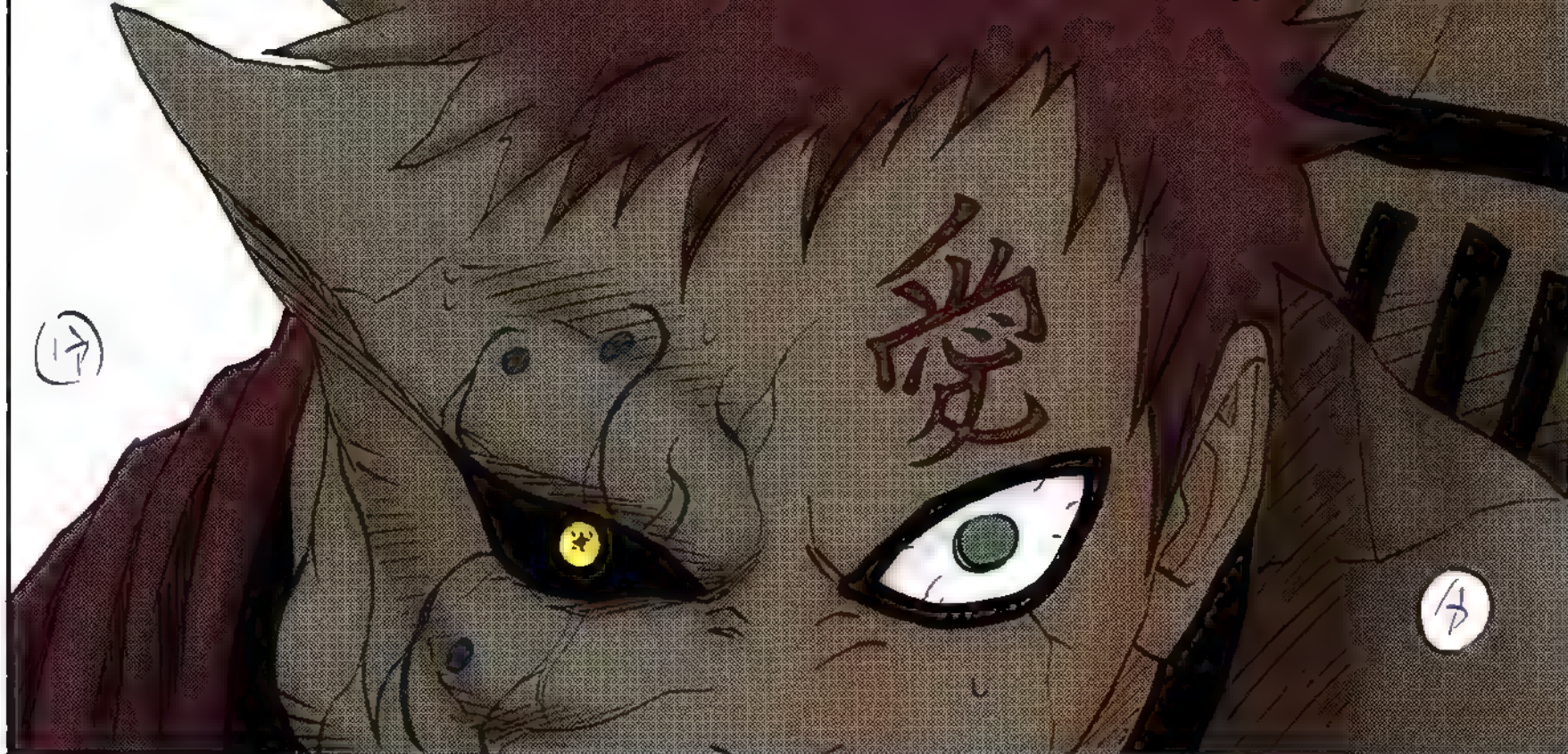
I WON'T
TRUST
ANYONE
ELSE ANY-
MORE...
WON'T
LOVE
THEM...
I'M
ALONE...

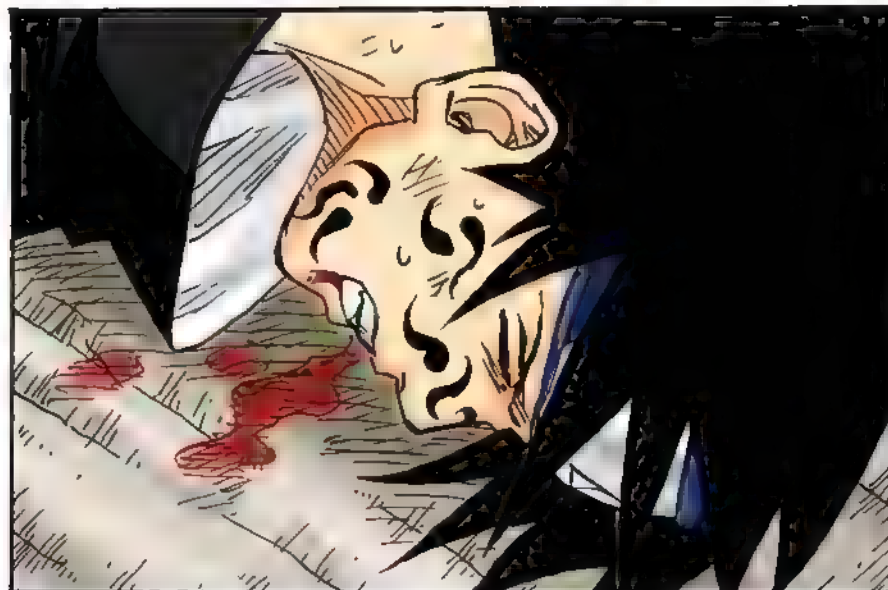
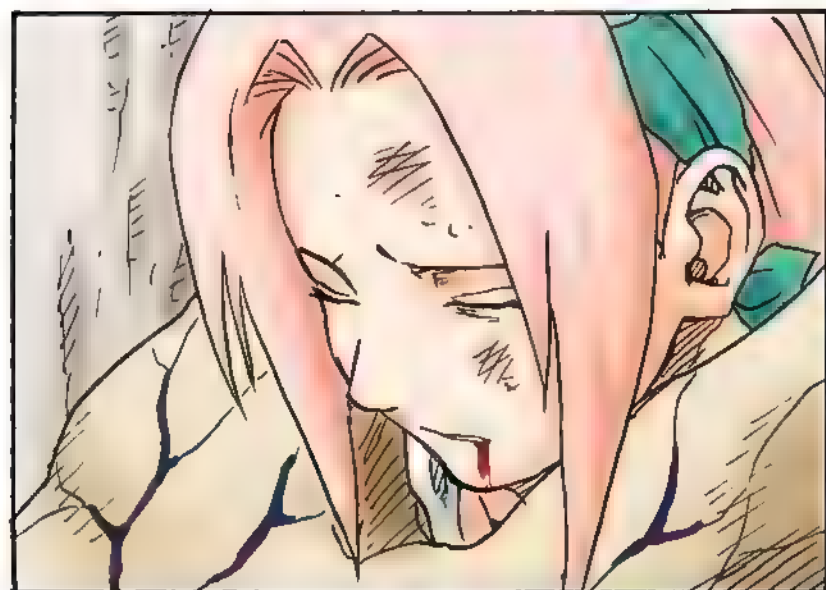
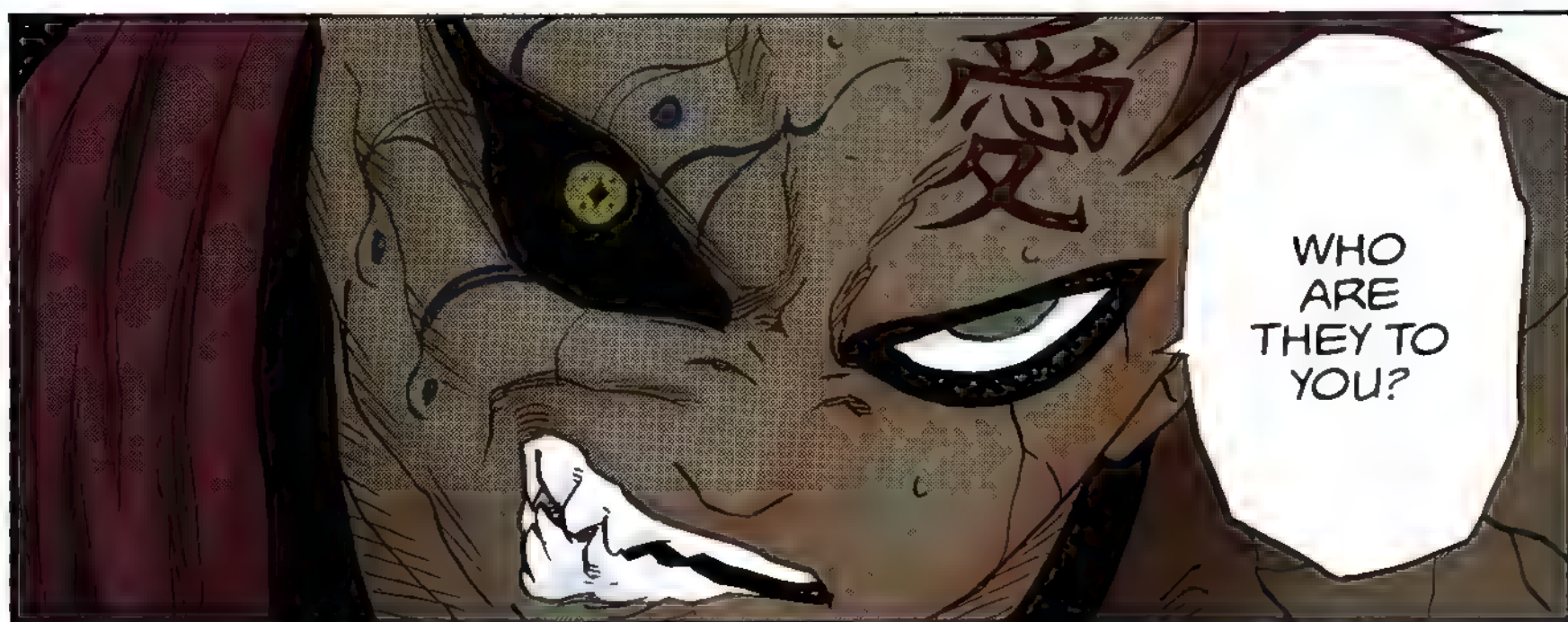
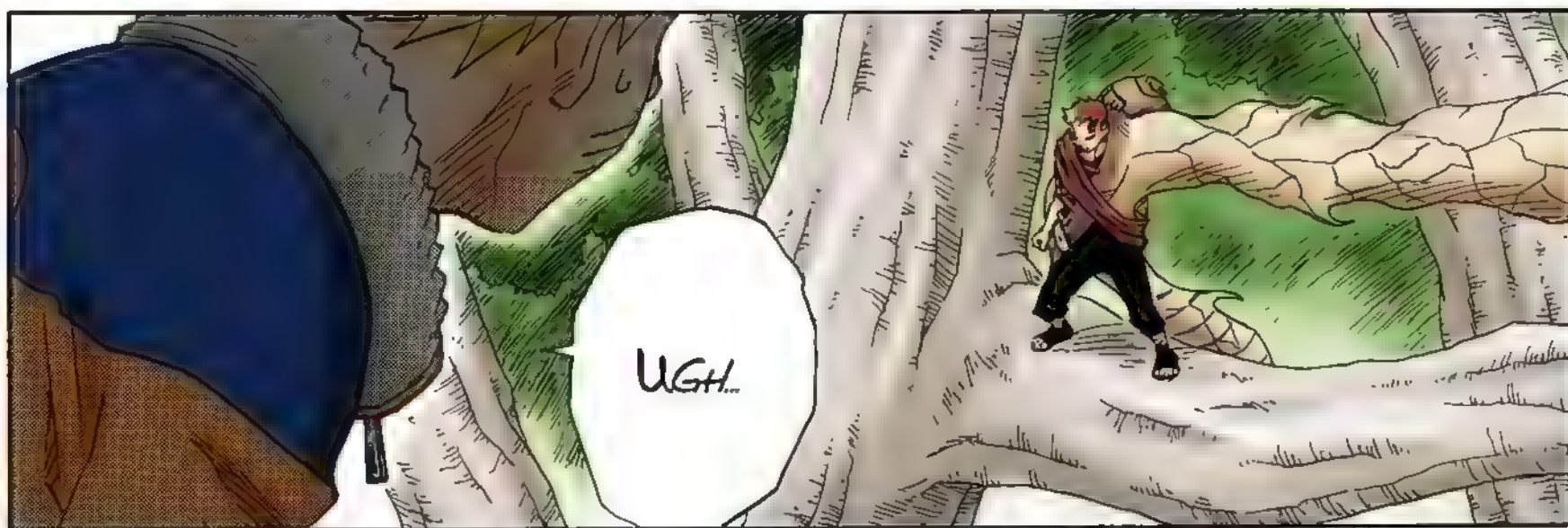
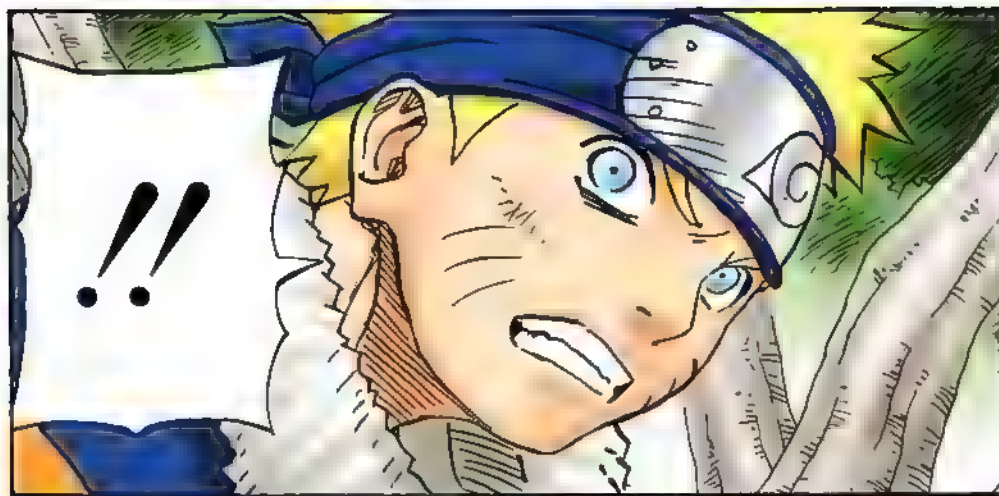
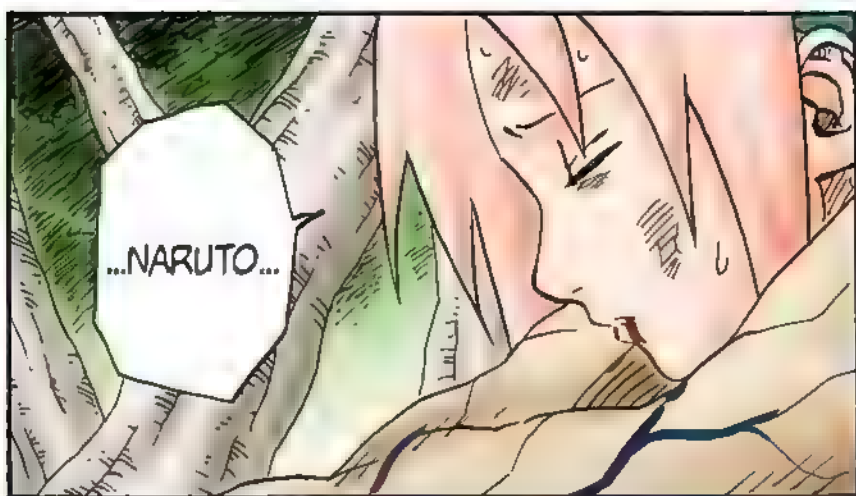


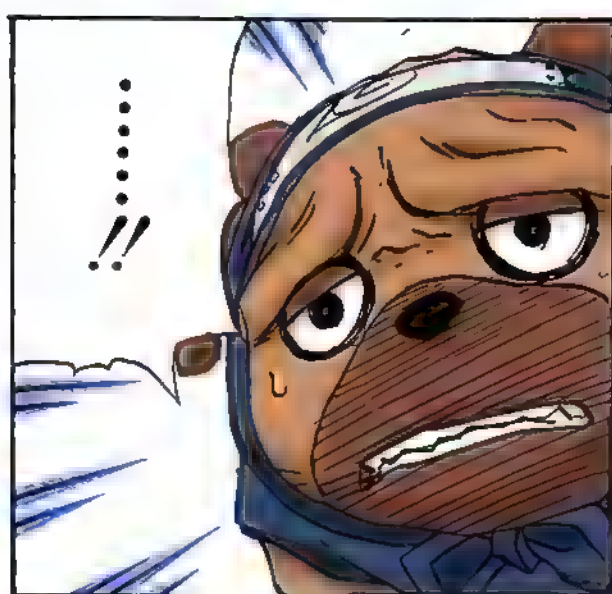
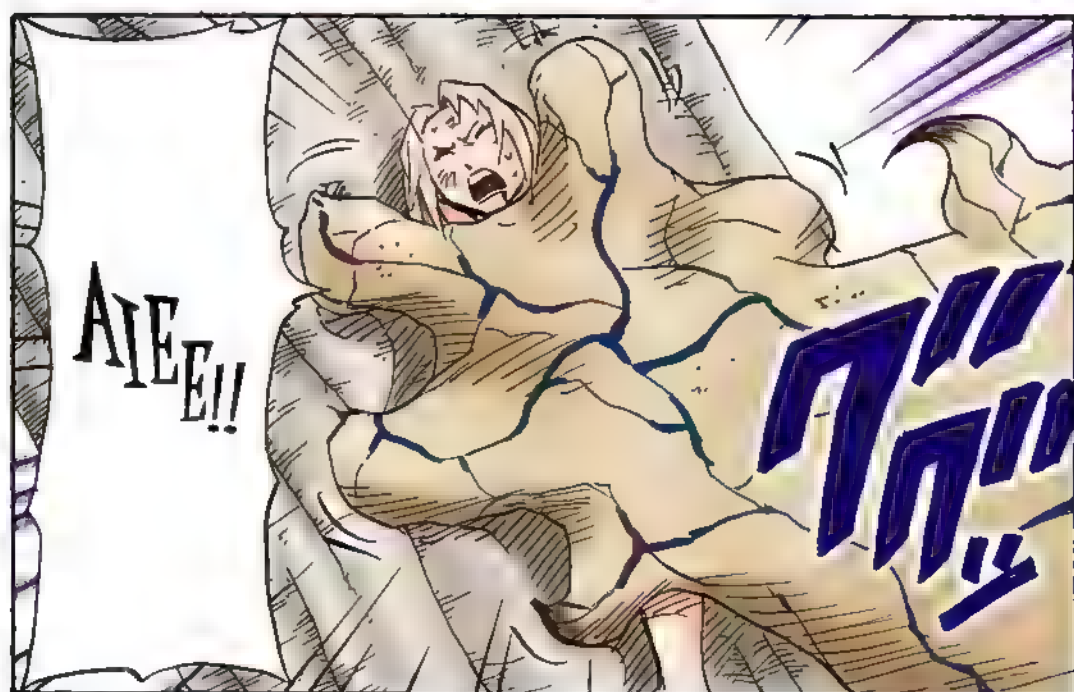
I AM
ALONE.

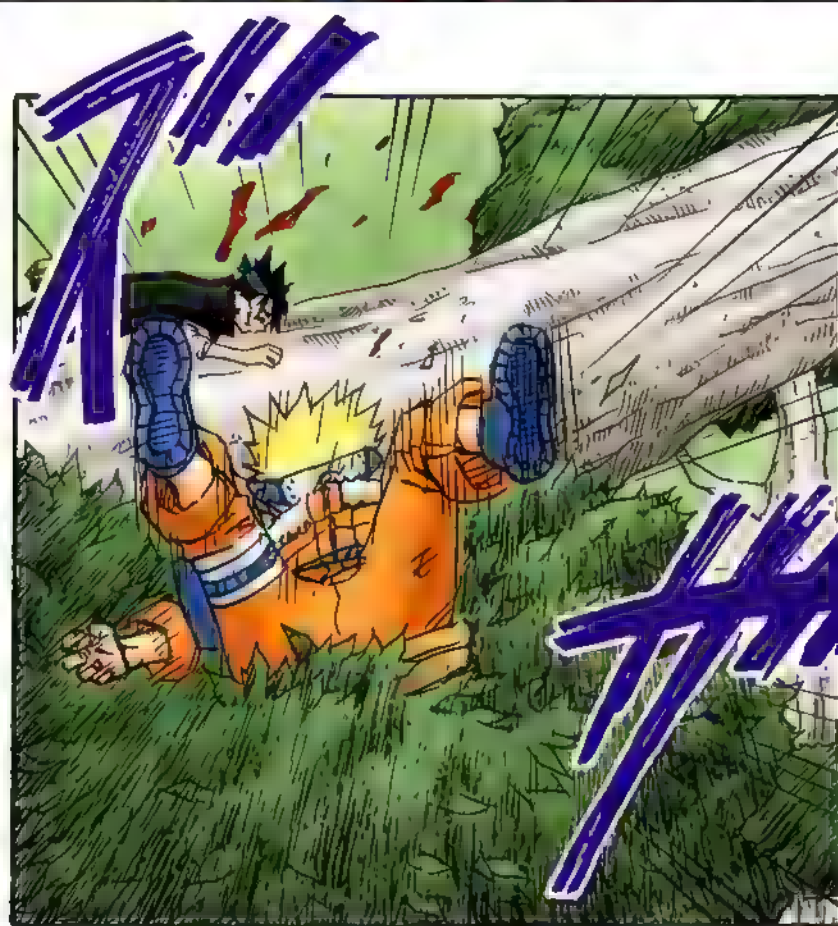
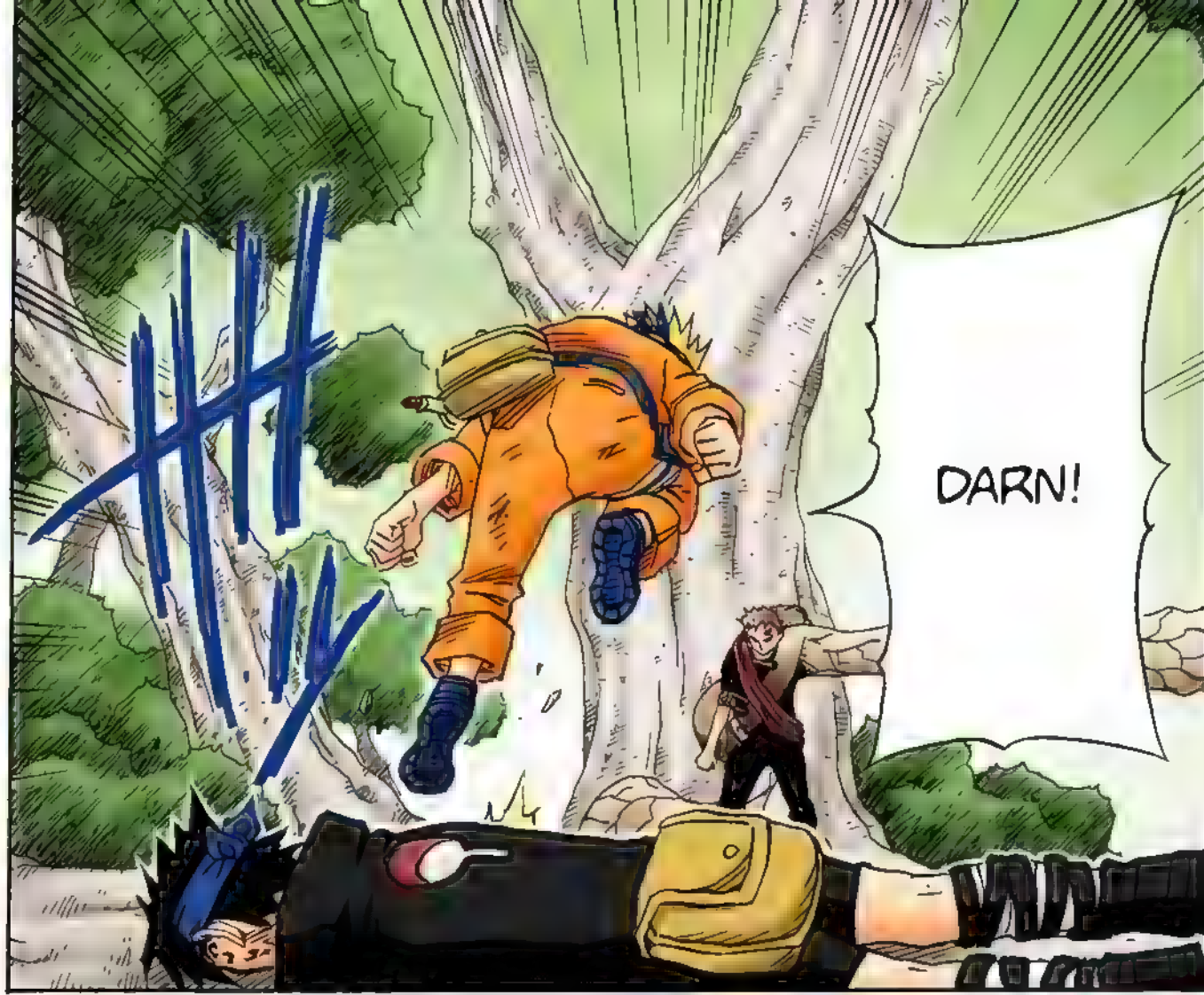


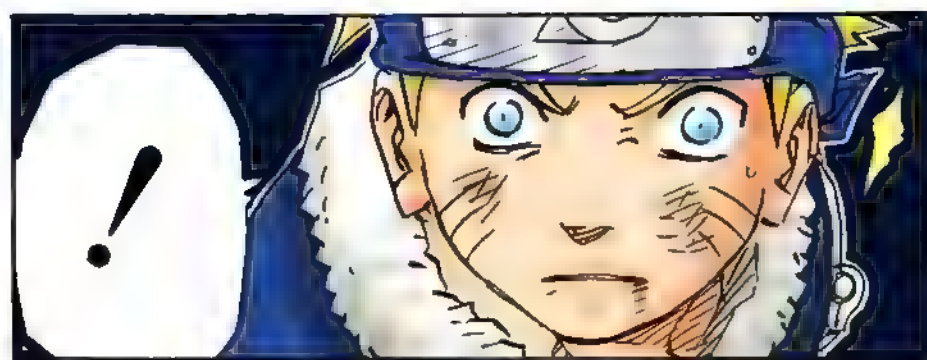
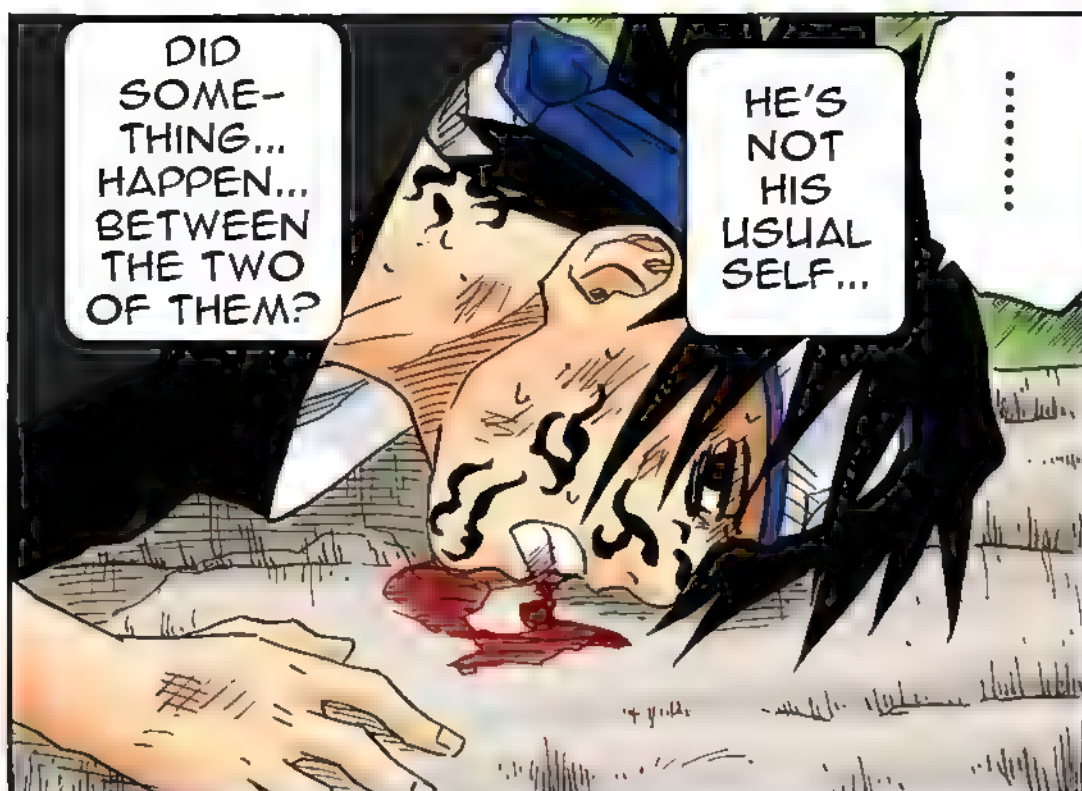
I FINALLY
UNDER-
STAND...

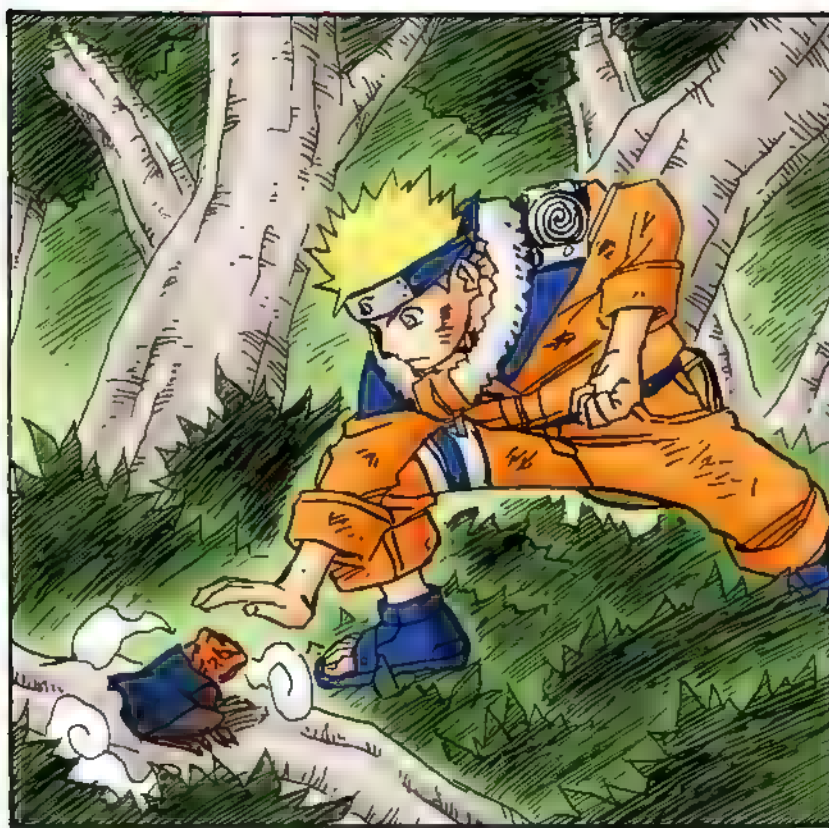














THIS ISN'T
THE TIME
OR PLACE
TO BE
PLAYING
AROUND,
MINI-WART!

ARGH...



WHAT?!
DON'T YOU
DARE MOCK
AMPHIBIANS!!!
EH!!!

Y'KNOW,
I REALLY!!
I REALLY REALLY
HATE YOU
FROGS!!!

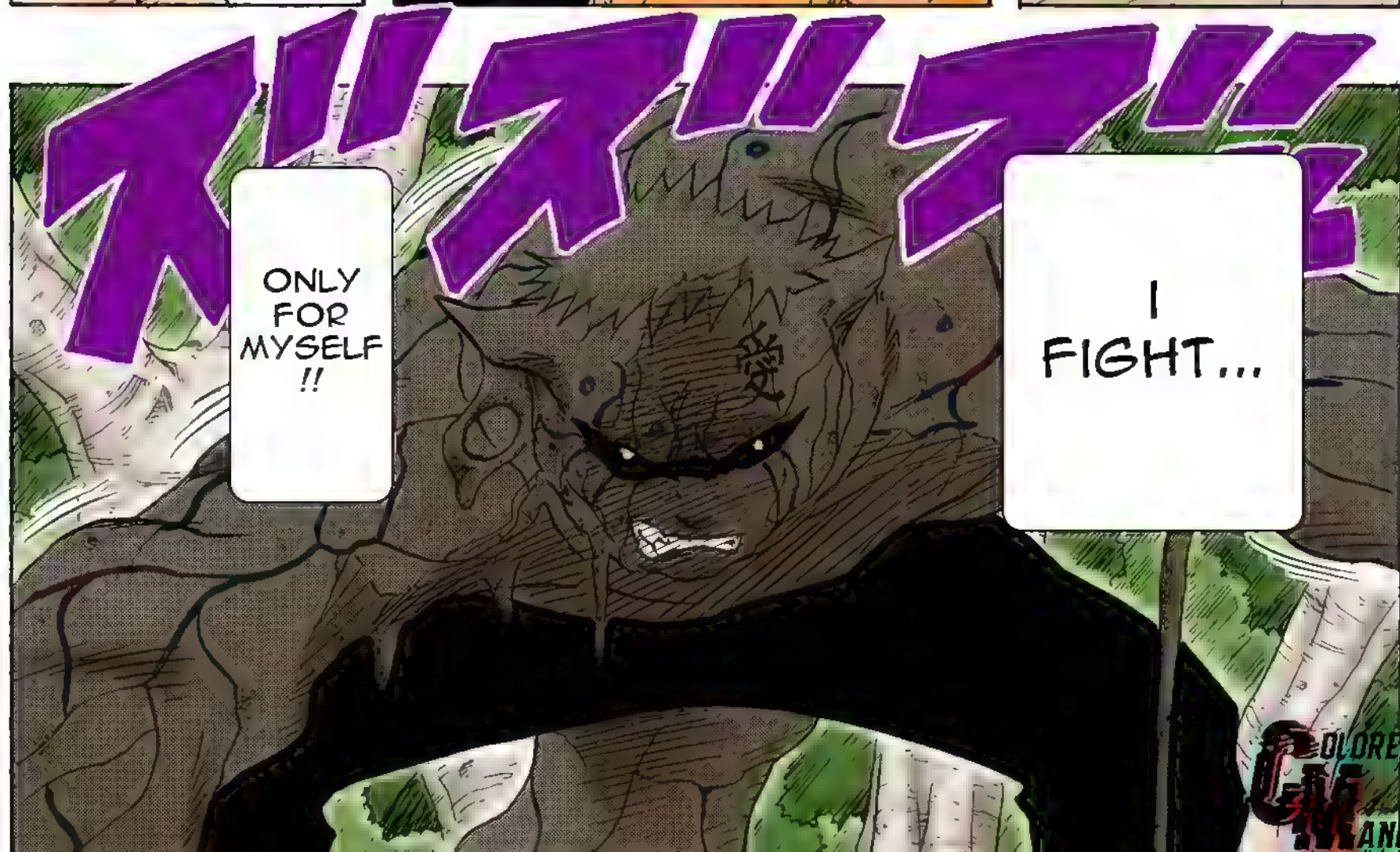
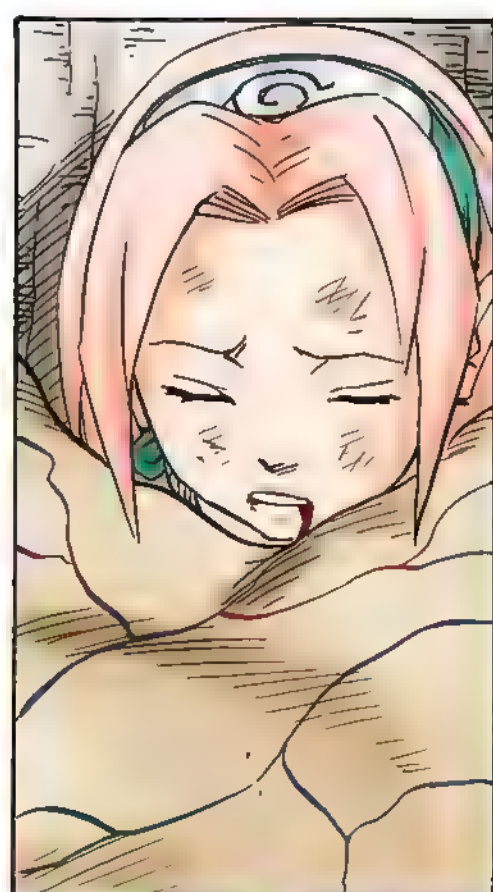


FRIEND...?!
WHAT A
LAUGH...



WHAT
WAS
ALL
THAT
TRAIN-
ING
FOR?
AT THIS
RATE
THERE
ISNT...

DARN!
WHY
IS
IT...



ONLY
FOR
MYSELF
!!

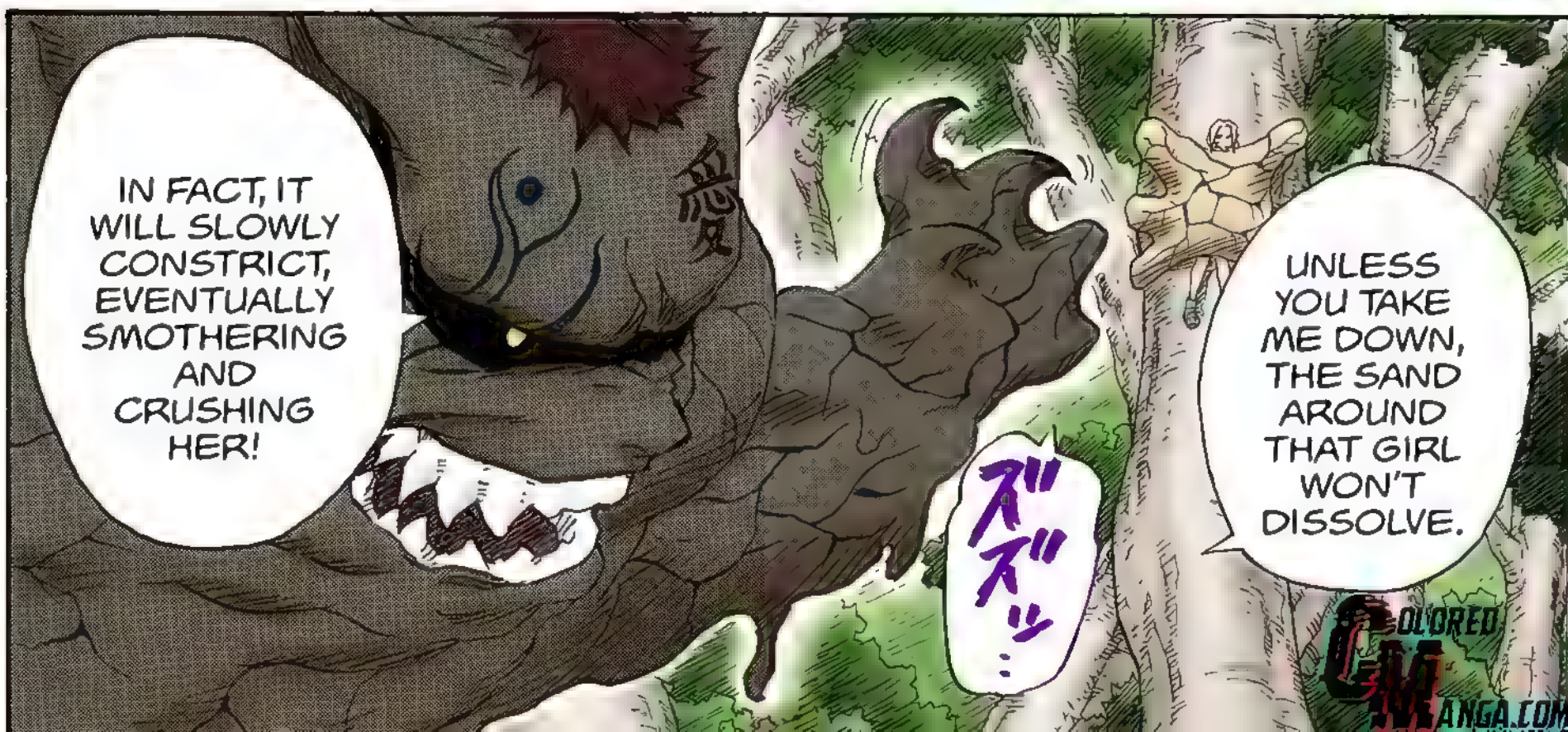
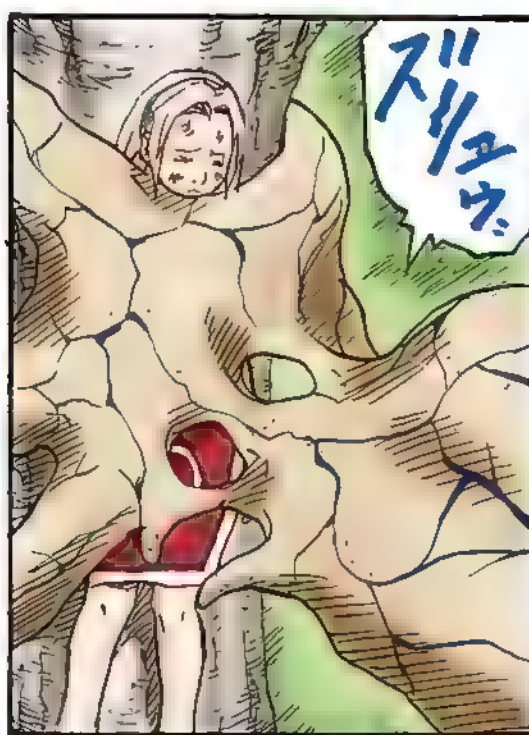
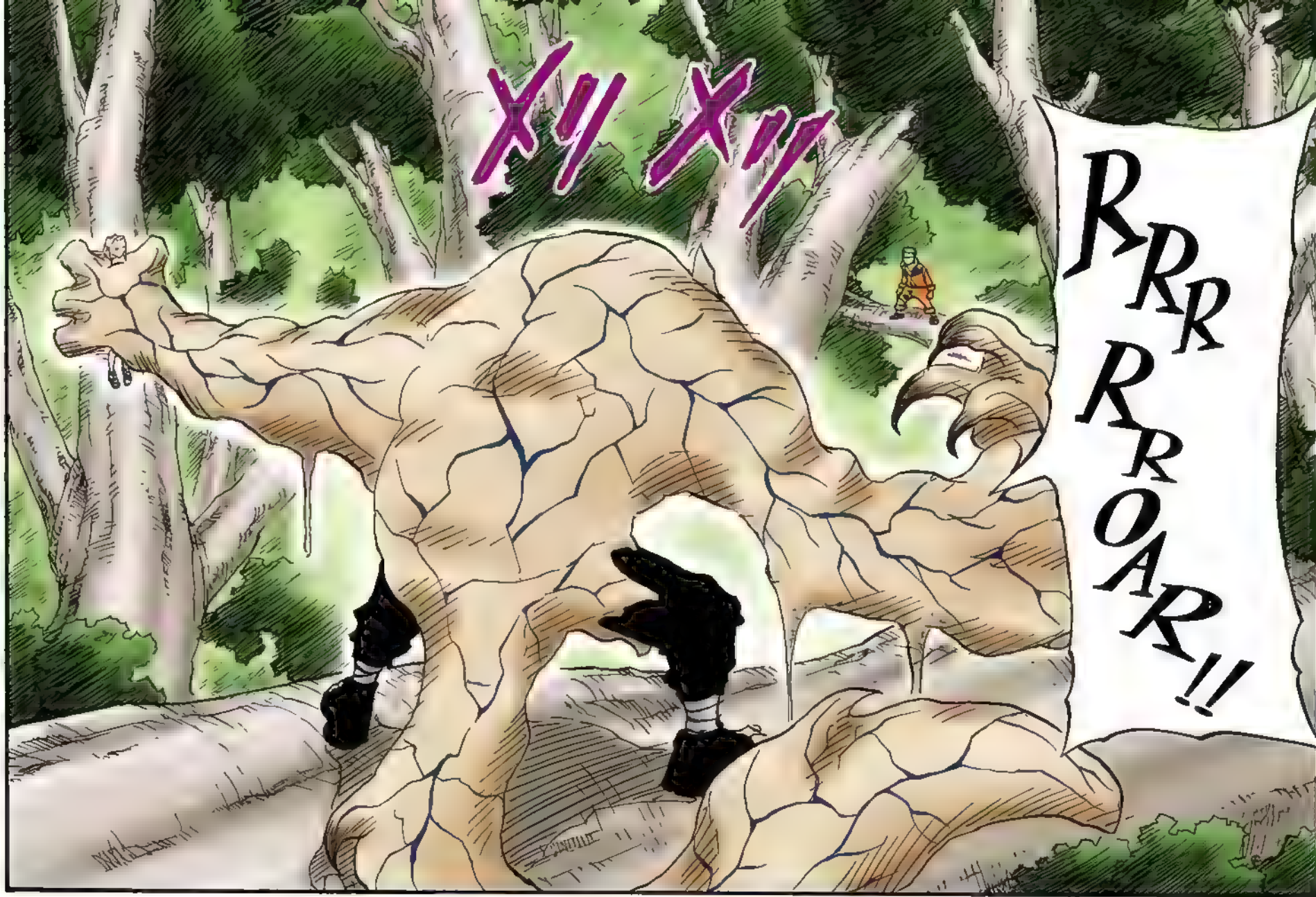
I
FIGHT...

ナンバー

132 :

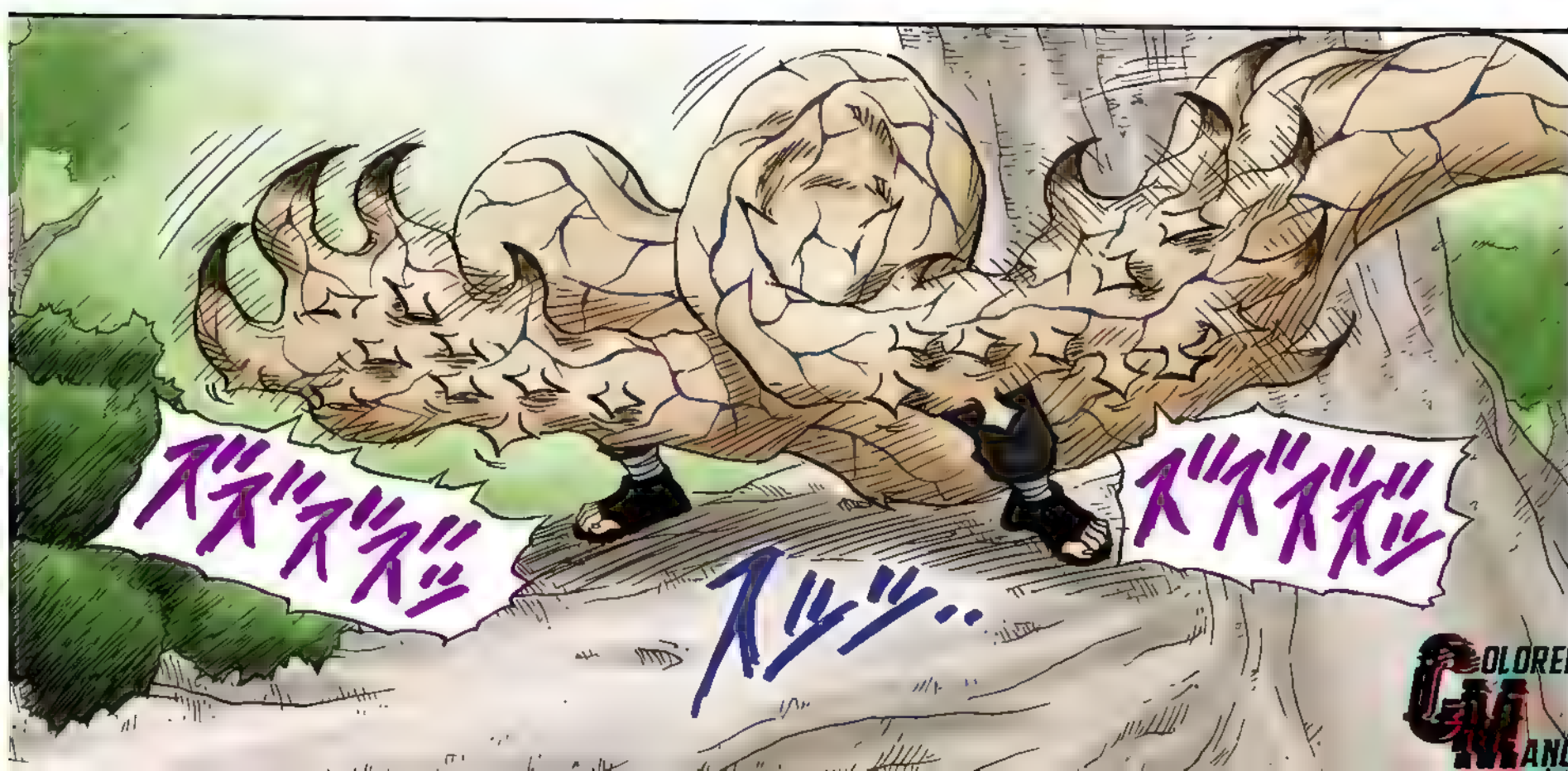
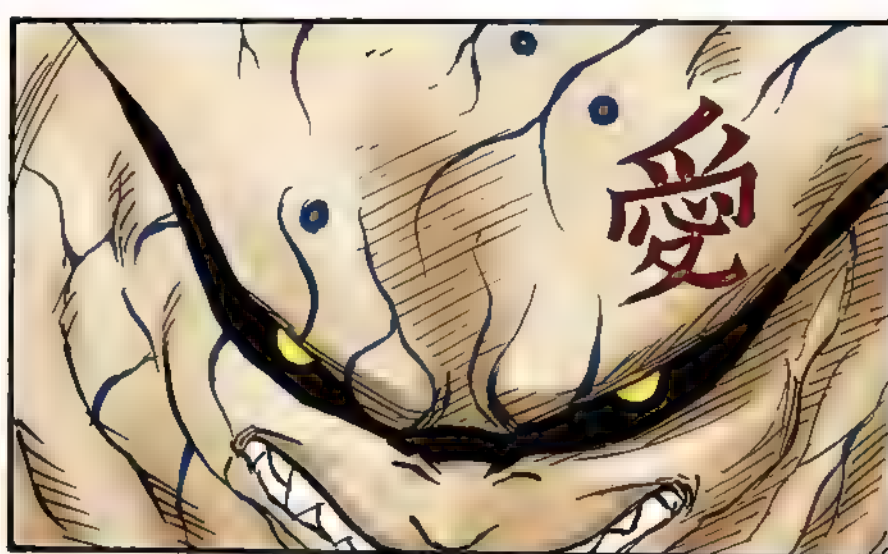
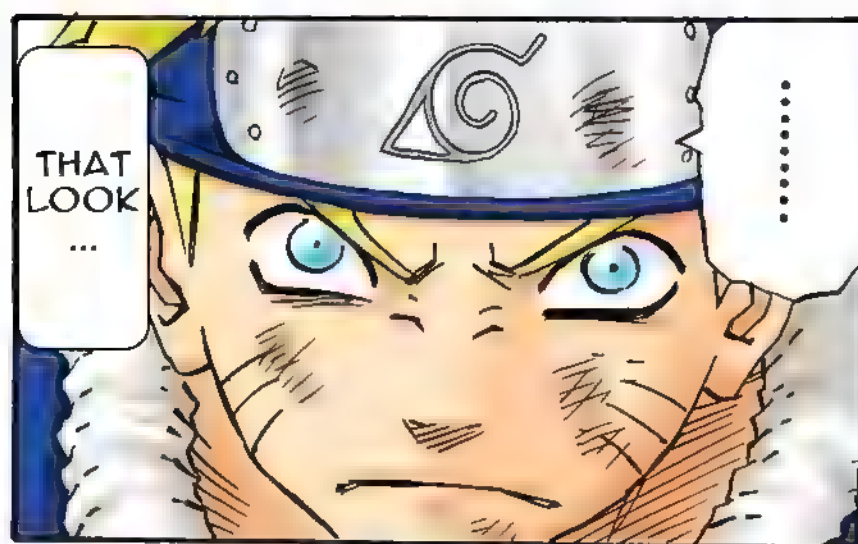
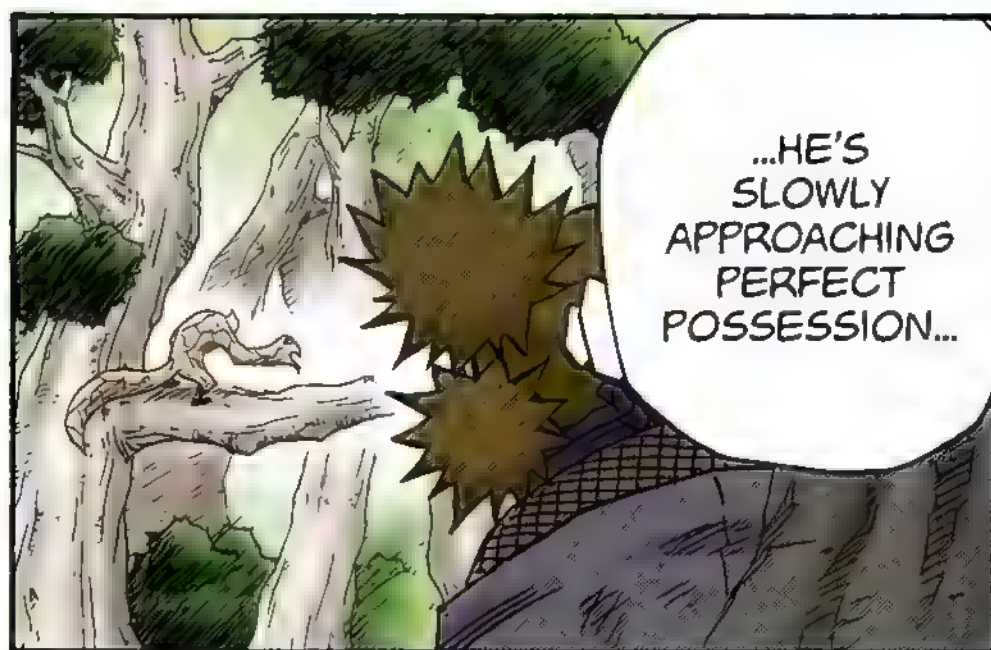
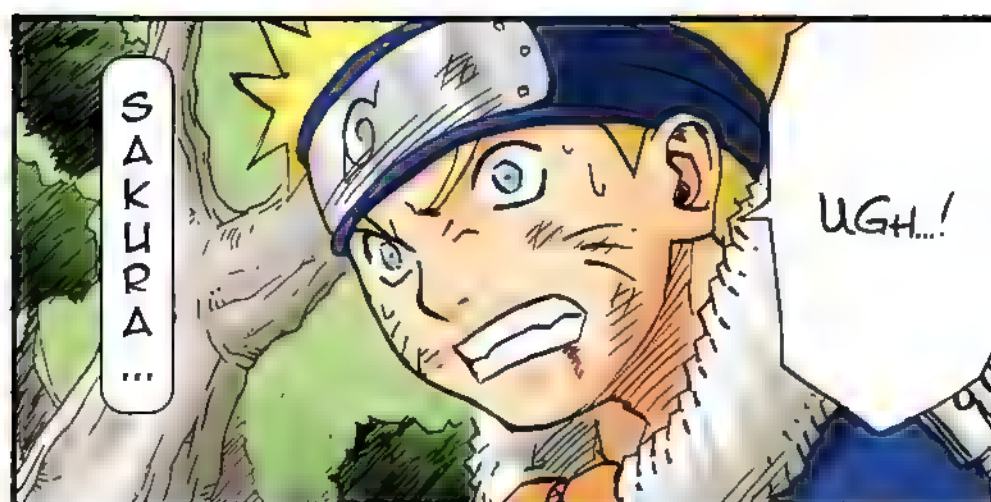
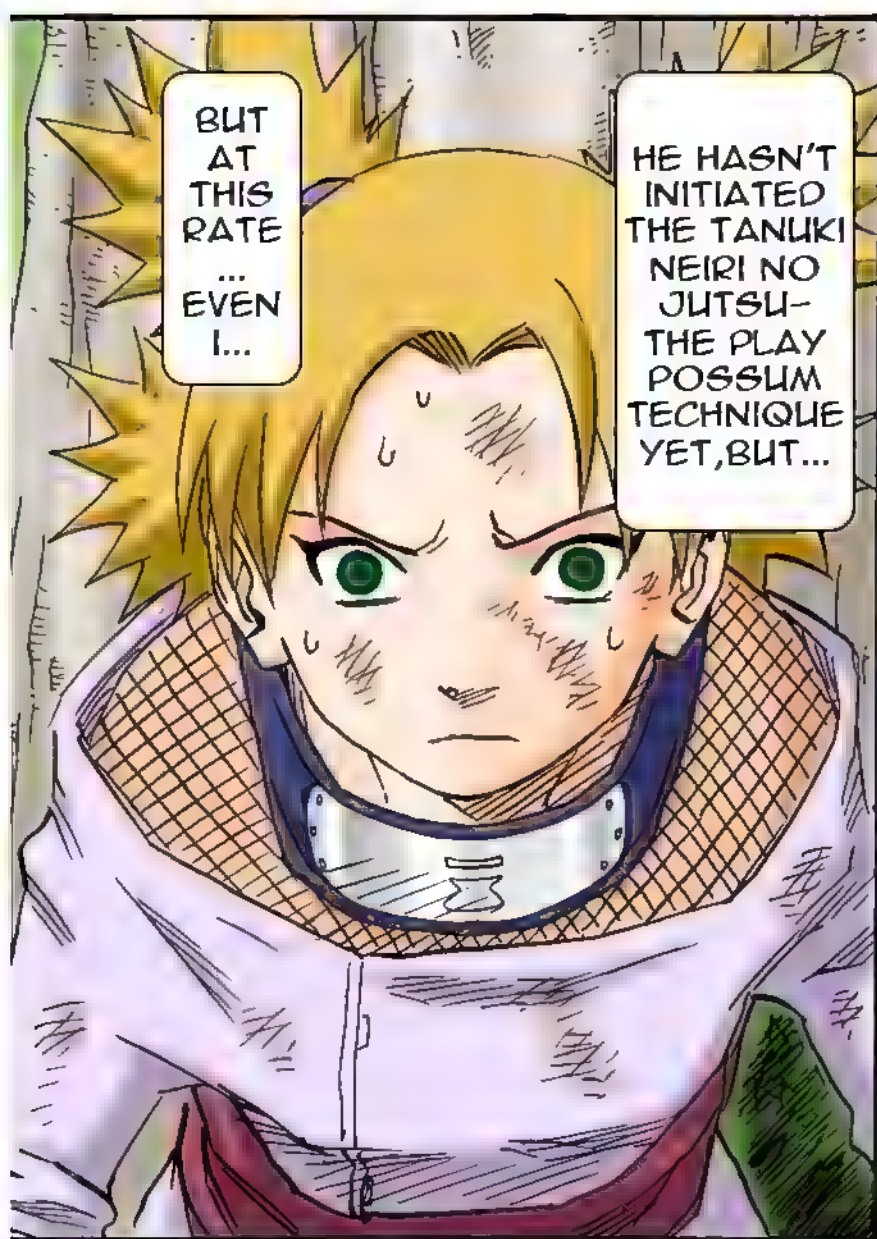


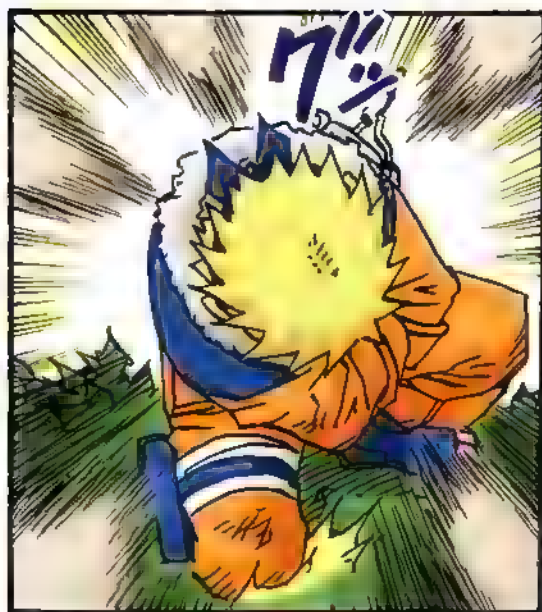
THE TWO... DARKNESS AND LIGHT

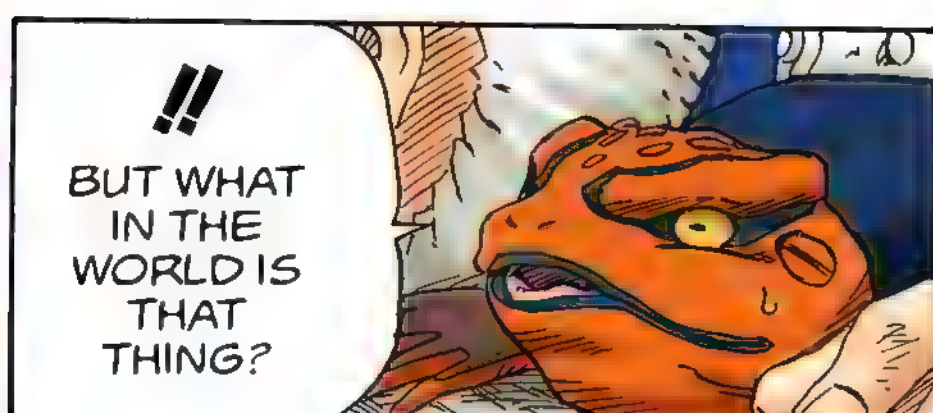
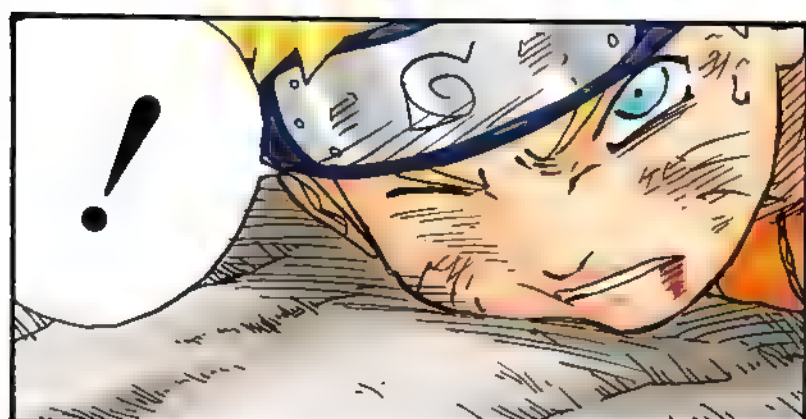
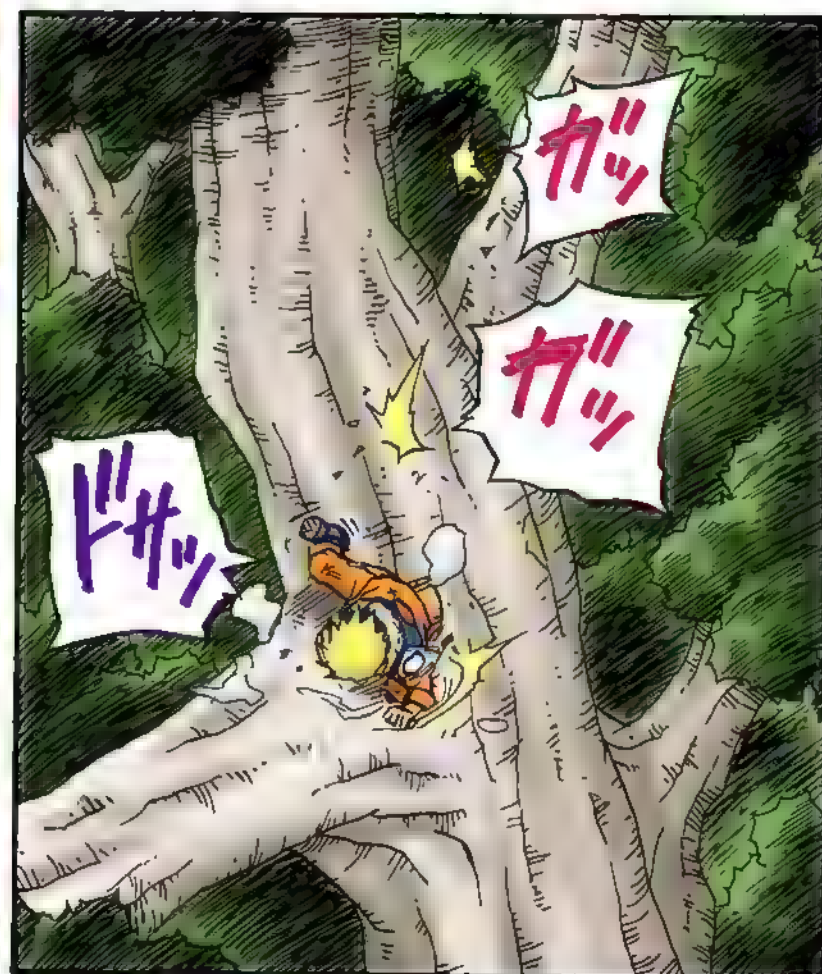
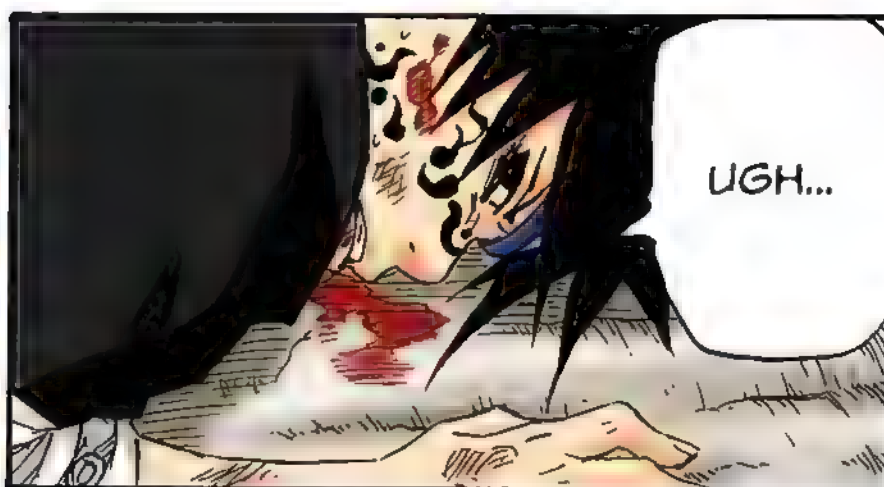
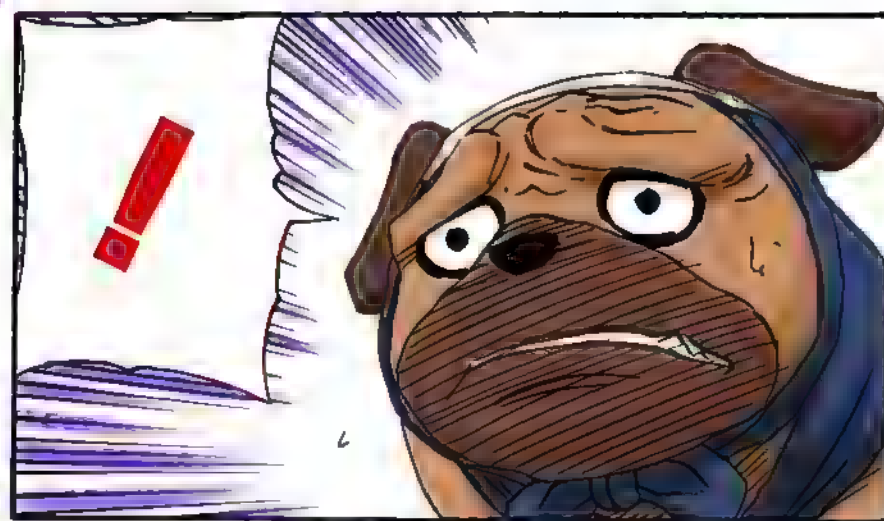


IN FACT, IT
WILL SLOWLY
CONSTRICT,
EVENTUALLY
SMOTHERING
AND
CRUSHING
HER!

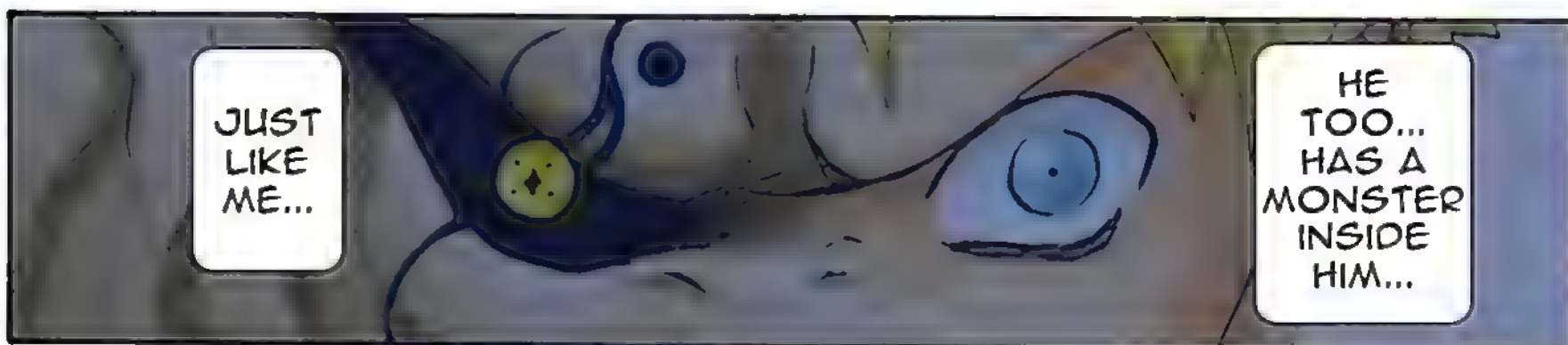
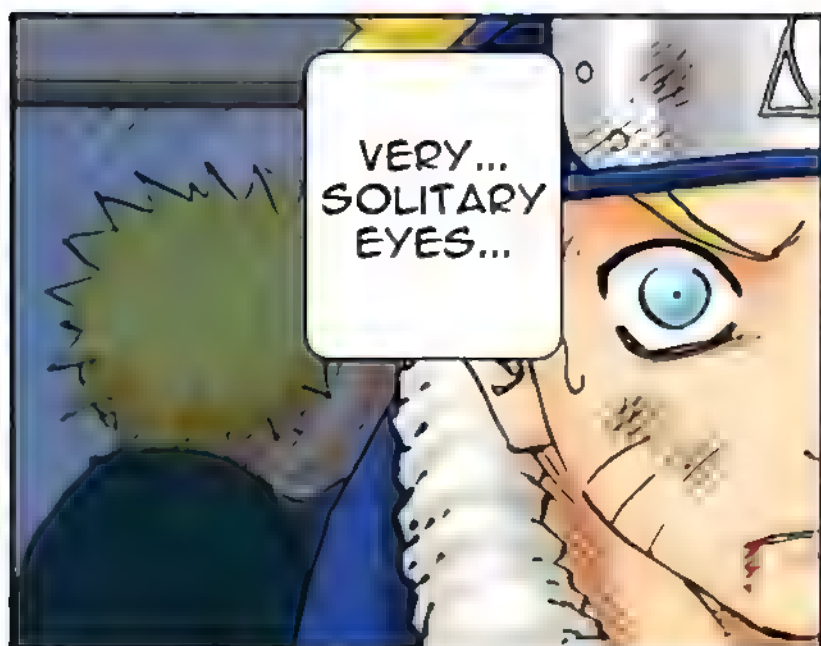
UNLESS
YOU TAKE
ME DOWN,
THE SAND
AROUND
THAT GIRL
WON'T
DISSOLVE.

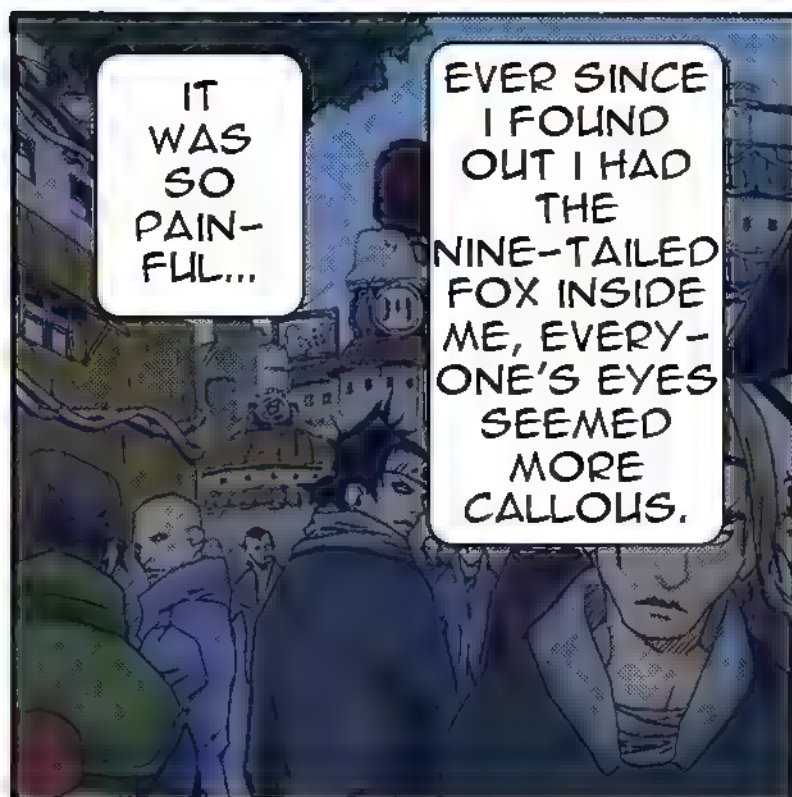
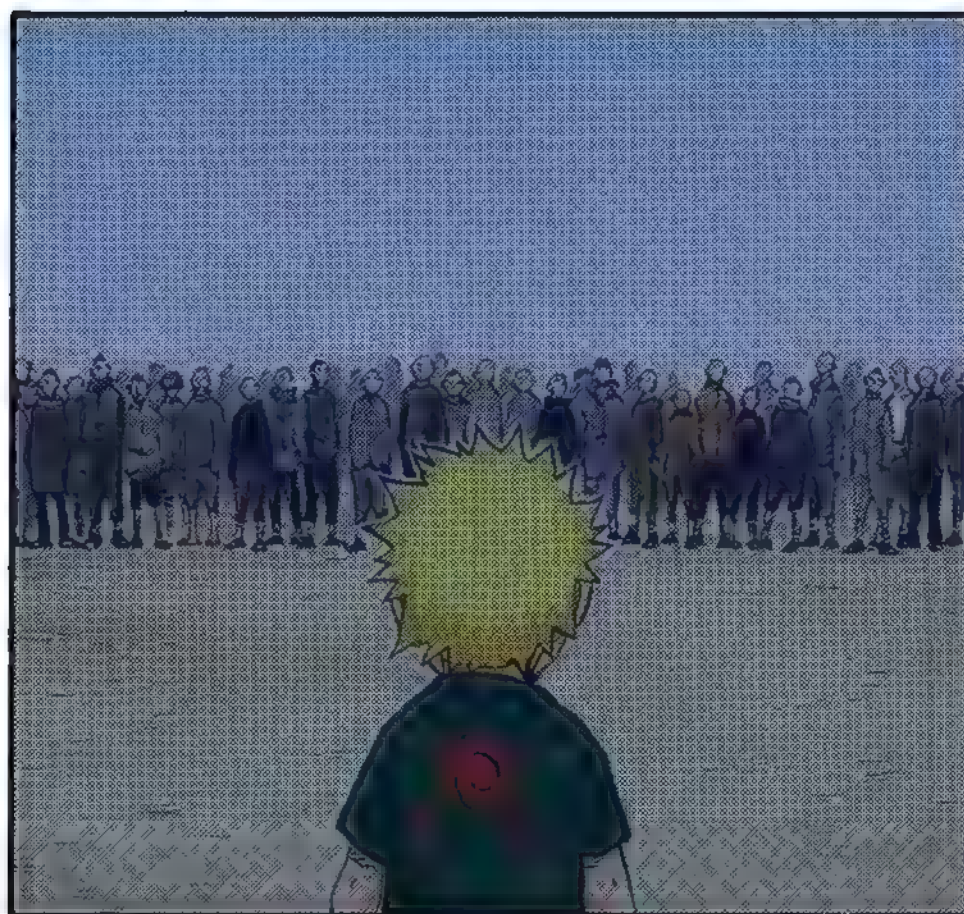


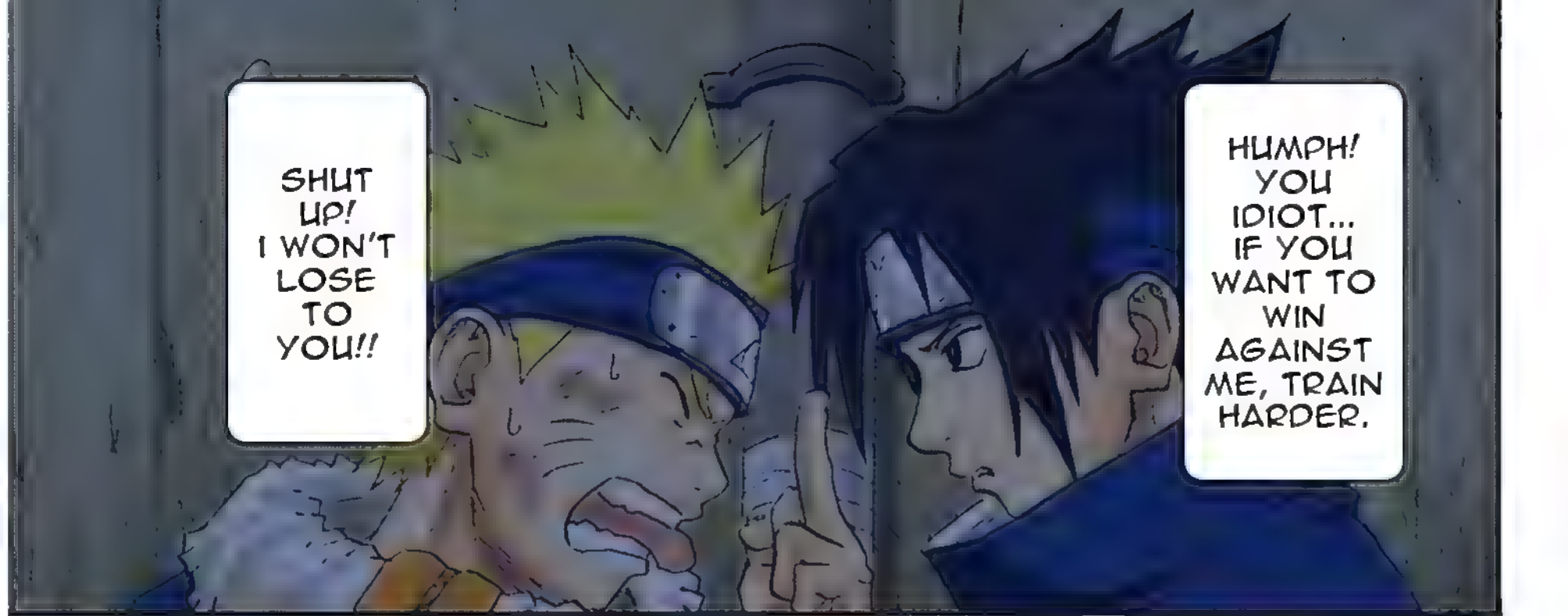






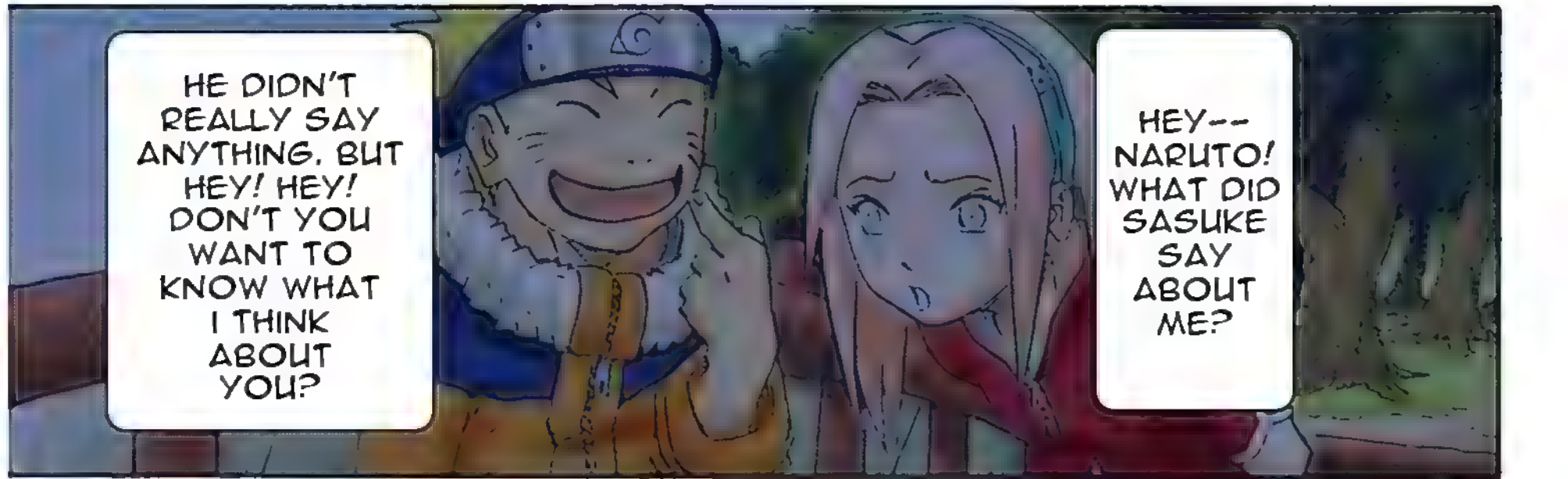






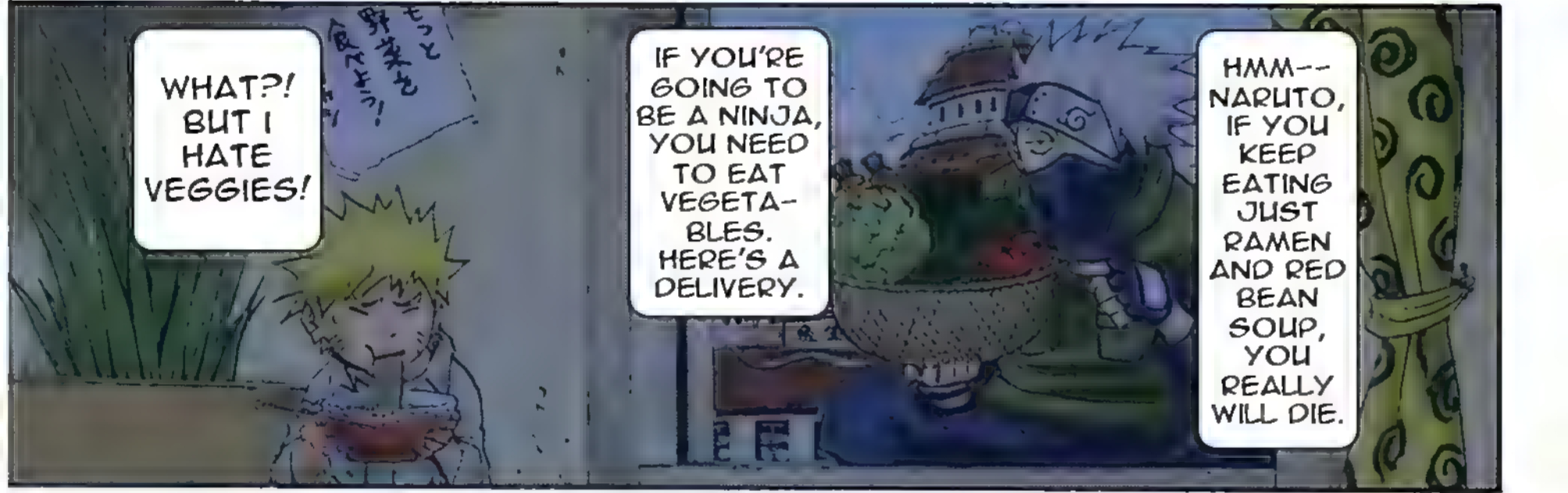
SHUT
UP!
I WON'T
LOSE
TO
YOU!!

HUMPH!
YOU
IDIOT...
IF YOU
WANT TO
WIN
AGAINST
ME, TRAIN
HARDER.



HE DIDN'T
REALLY SAY
ANYTHING, BUT
HEY! HEY!
DON'T YOU
WANT TO
KNOW WHAT
I THINK
ABOUT
YOU?

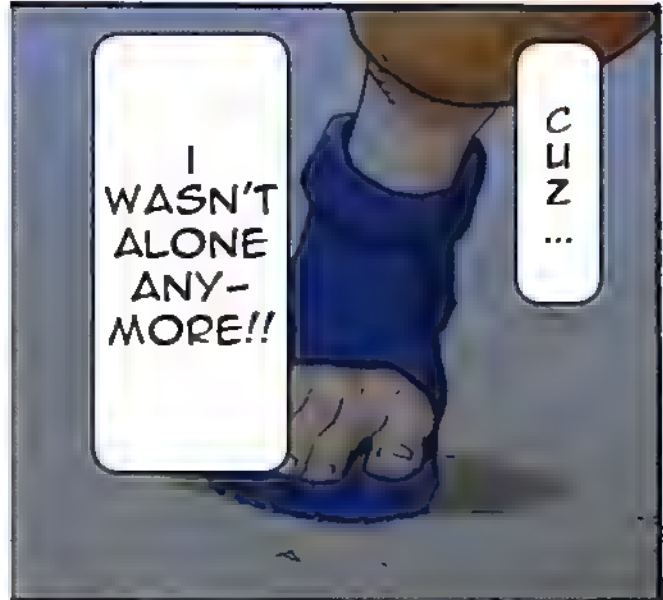
HEY--
NARUTO!
WHAT DID
SASUKE
SAY
ABOUT
ME?



WHAT?!
BUT I
HATE
VEGGIES!

IF YOU'RE
GOING TO
BE A NINJA,
YOU NEED
TO EAT
VEGETA-
BLES.
HERE'S A
DELIVERY.

HMM--
NARUTO,
IF YOU
KEEP
EATING
JUST
RAMEN
AND RED
BEAN
SOUP,
YOU
REALLY
WILL DIE.

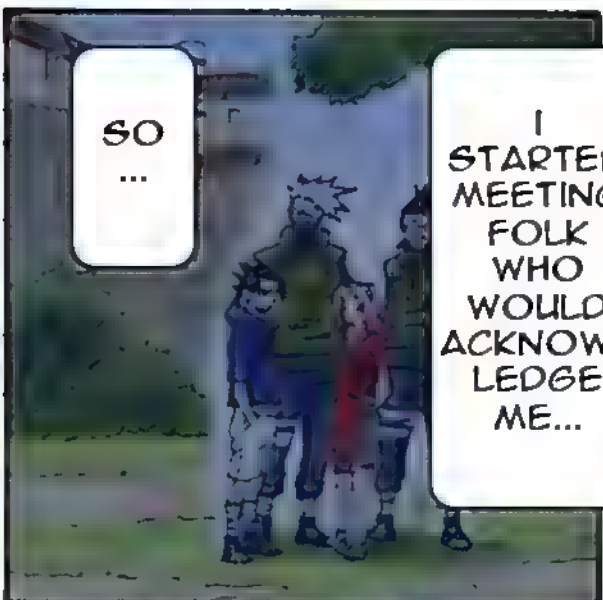


I
WASN'T
ALONE
ANY-
MORE!!

C
U
Z
...

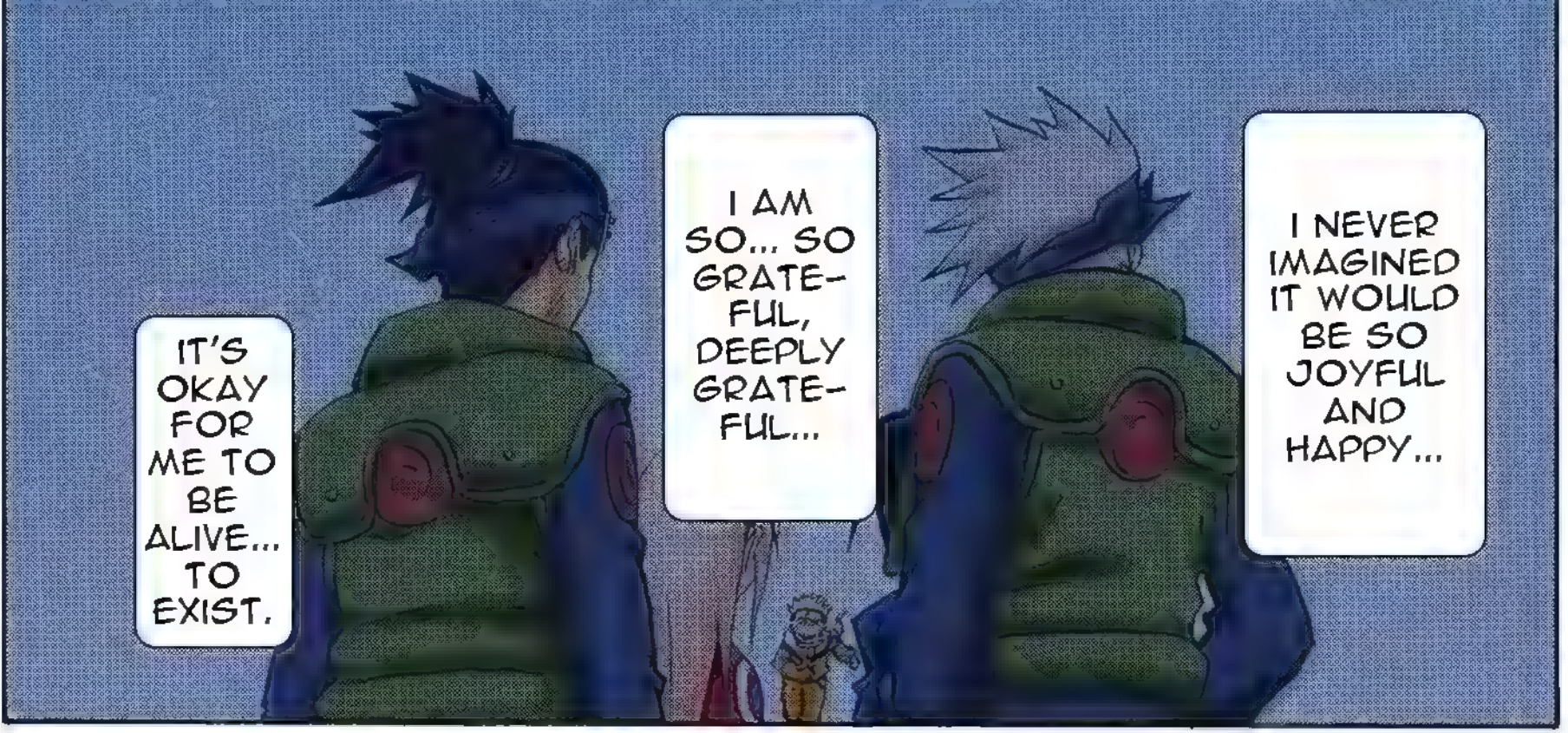


EVEN THOUGH I
HAD A DEMON
FOX INSIDE ME,
AND PEOPLE
LOOKED COLDLY
AT ME, I GOT
USED TO IT.



SO
...

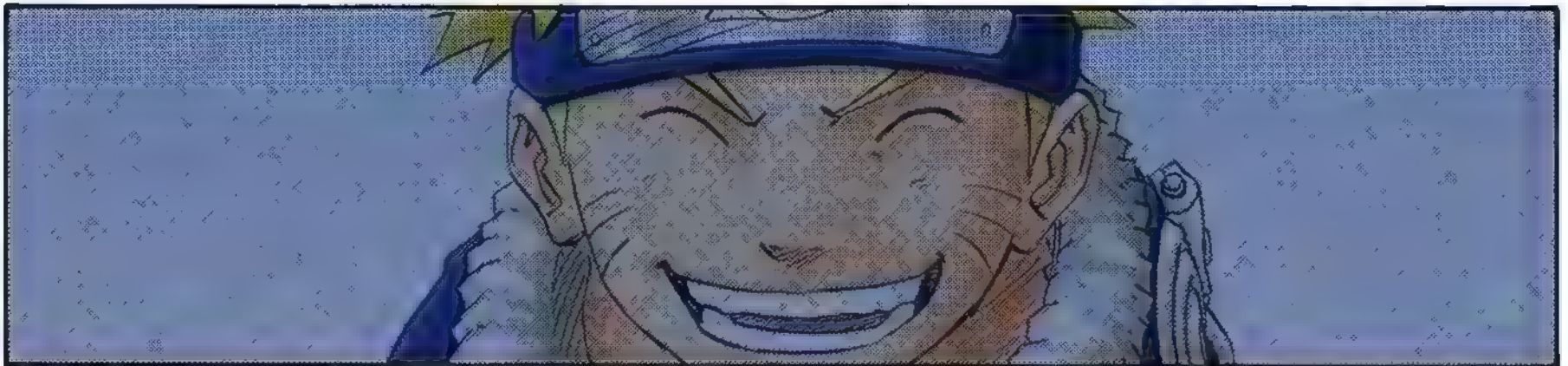
I
STARTED
MEETING
FOLK
WHO
WOULD
ACKNOW-
LEDGE
ME...



IT'S
OKAY
FOR
ME TO
BE
ALIVE...
TO
EXIST.

I AM
SO... SO
GRATE-
FUL,
DEEPLY
GRATE-
FUL...

I NEVER
IMAGINED
IT WOULD
BE SO
JOYFUL
AND
HAPPY...

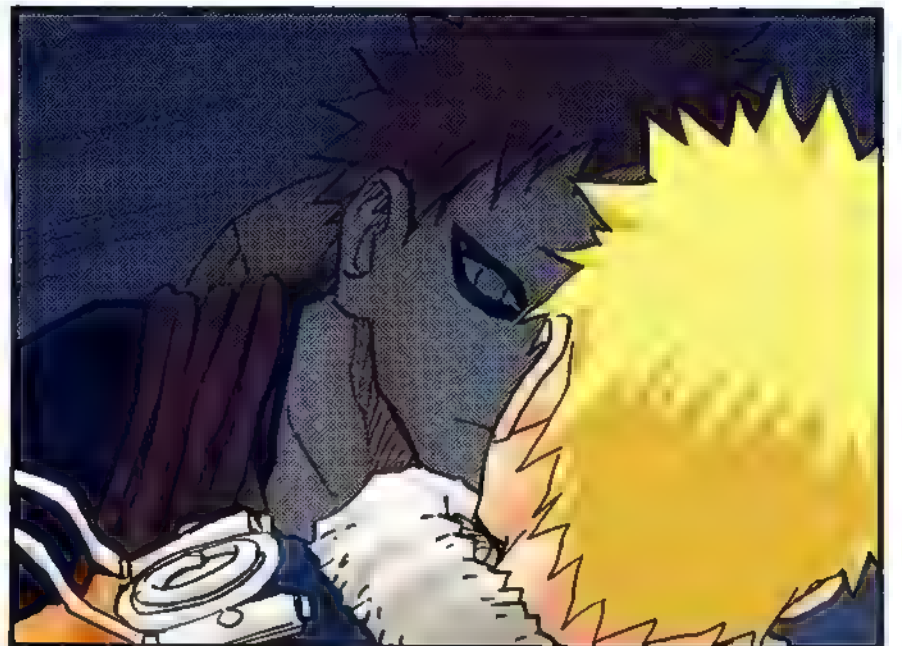
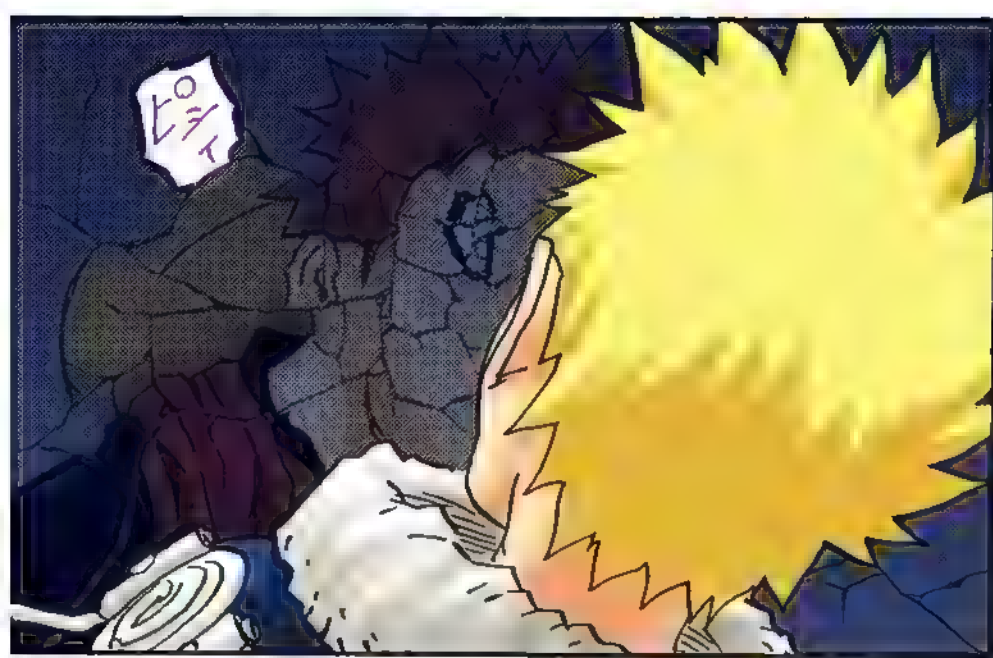


...THAT PAIN
WASN'T JUST
ANYTHING...
IT WAS JUST
PITCH BLACK.

THAT'S WHY
WHEN I THINK
ABOUT THE
PAST, IT
MAKES ME
SHUDDER.



IF...
IF I HAD
STAYED
ALL
ALONE...



"I EXIST
TO KILL
ALL
HUMANS
OTHER
THAN
MYSELF."

SO THIS
IS WHAT
I CAME
UP
WITH...

SO FOR
WHAT
PURPOSE
DO I EXIST
WHY AM I
ALIVE?

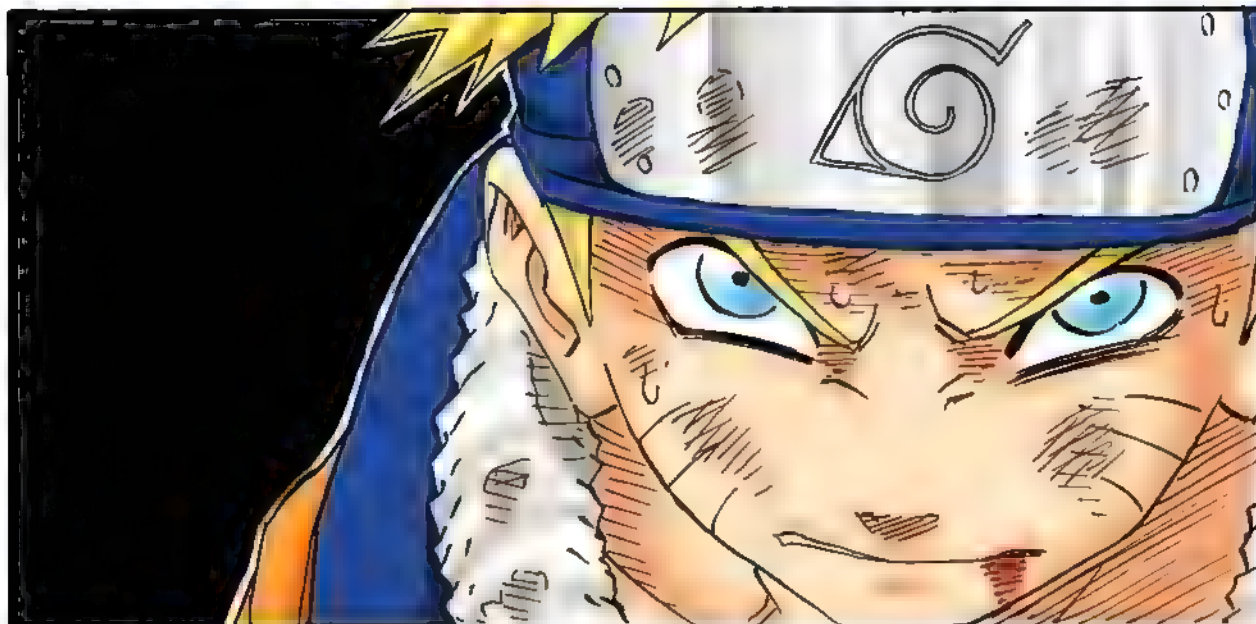
TO THEM,
I AM NOW
A RELIC
OF THE
PAST THAT
THEY JUST
WANT TO
ERASE
AND
FORGET.

THAT'S
WHY I
REALLY
DO
UNDER-
STAND
IT!

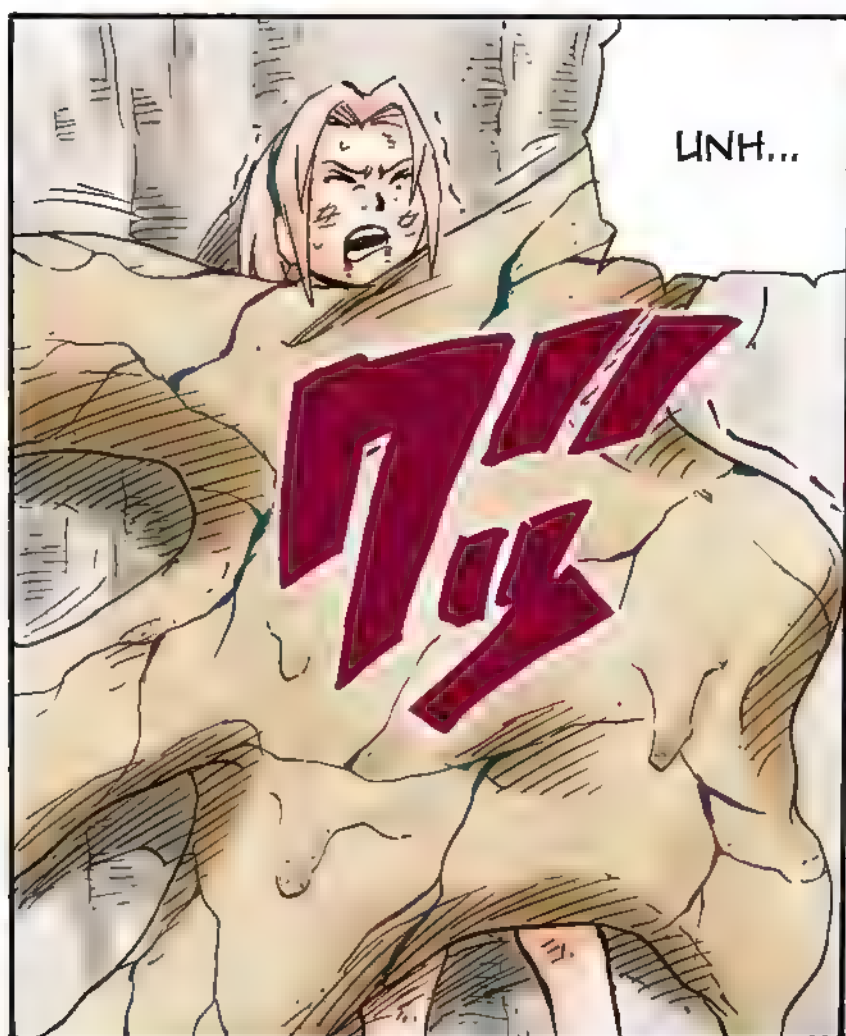


I KNOW HE'S BEEN ALONE THIS WHOLE TIME, CONTINUING TO SUFFER... WITHOUT ANY RELIEF, HE STILL ... CAN ONLY TRUST HIMSELF... HE'S STILL FIGHTING INSIDE THE DARK...

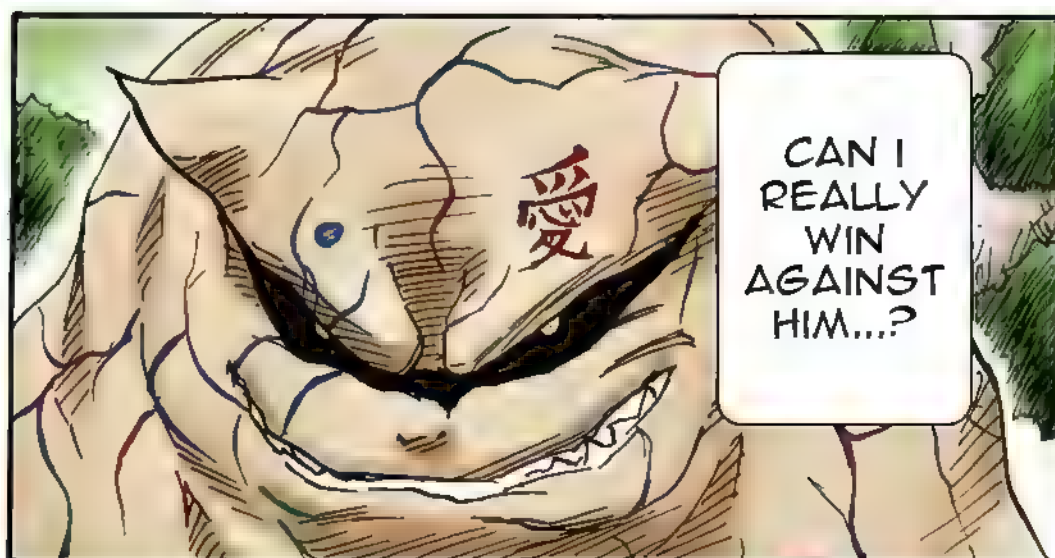
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED TO HIM, BUT...



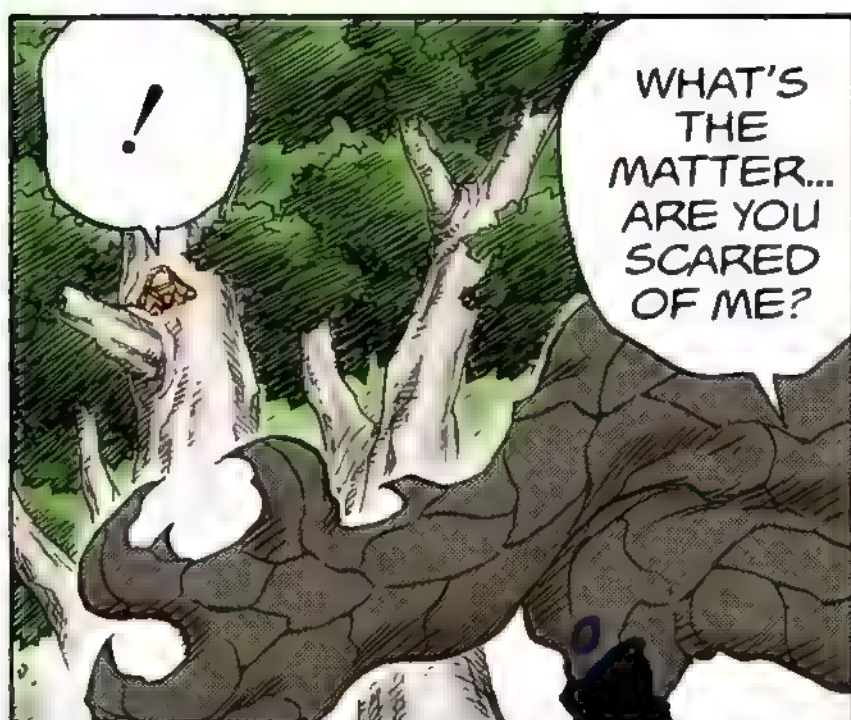
THAT'S RIGHT... IN HIS EYES, SOMEONE LIKE ME, WHO HAS OTHERS THAT ACKNOWLEDGE HIM... MAY SEEM LIKE A COWARD WHO LIVES IN A CAREFREE, SUNNY WORLD...



UNH...



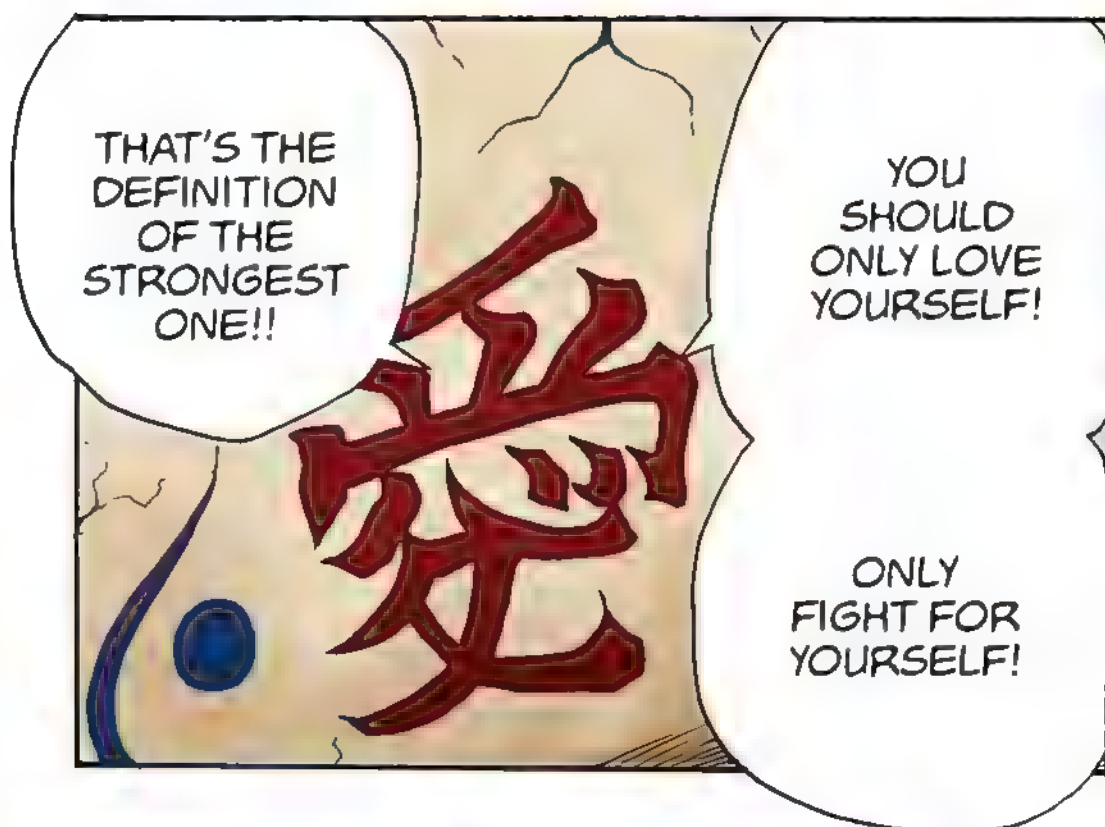
CAN I REALLY WIN AGAINST HIM...?



WHAT'S THE
MATTER...
ARE YOU
SCARED
OF ME?



...UGH!



THAT'S THE
DEFINITION
OF THE
STRONGEST
ONE!!

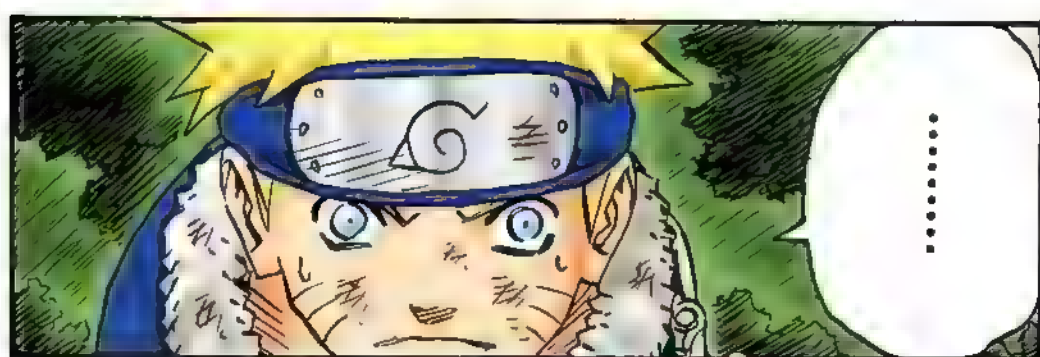
YOU
SHOULD
ONLY LOVE
YOURSELF!

ONLY
FIGHT FOR
YOURSELF!



...OR
FOR
OTHERS...

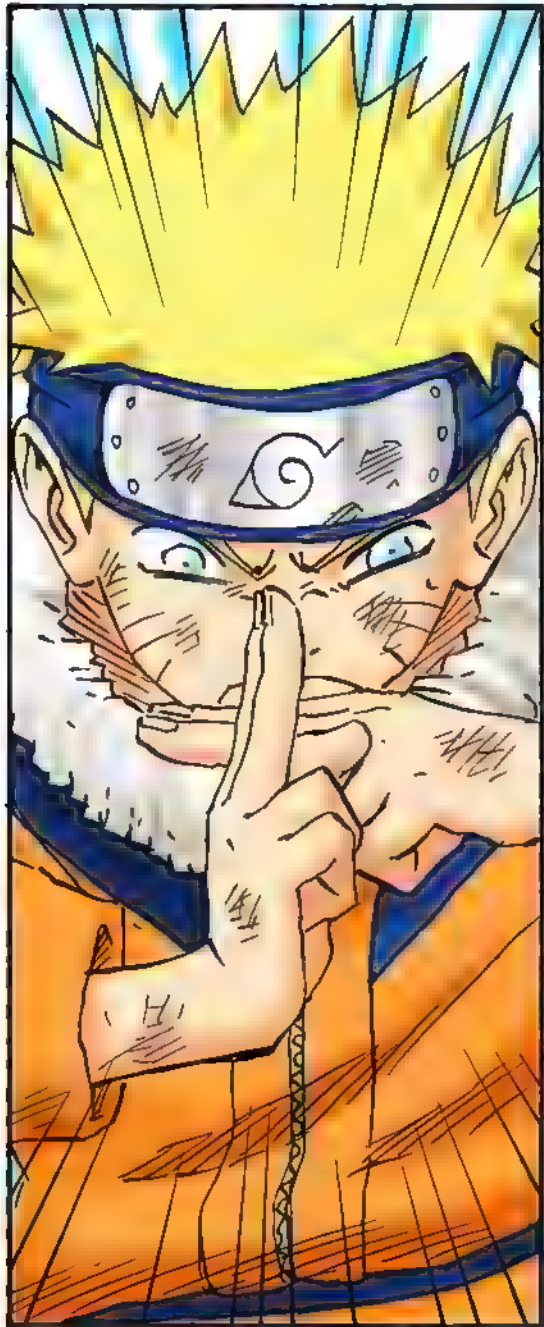
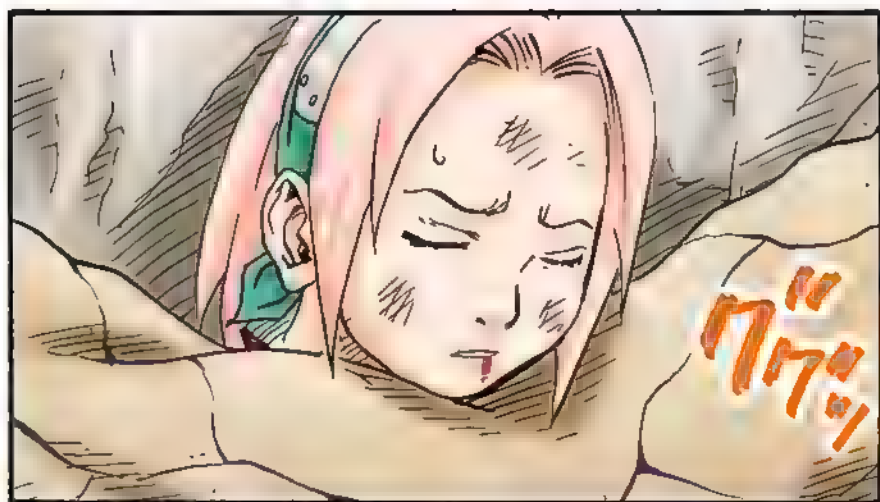
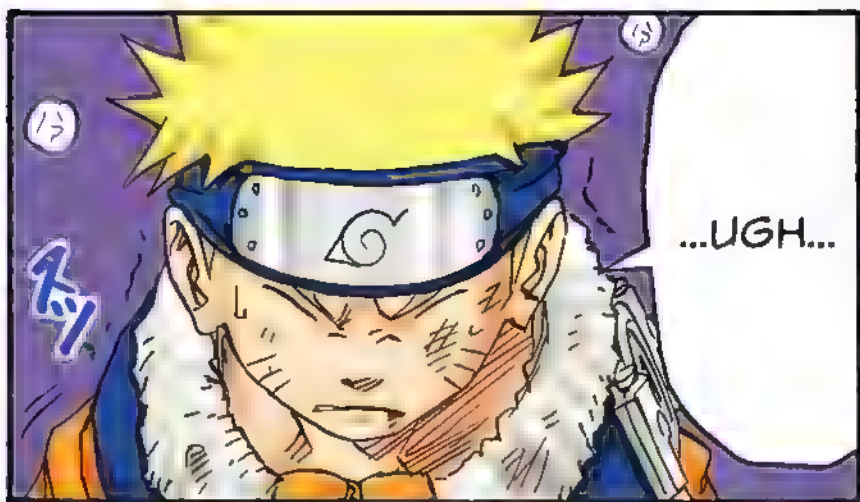
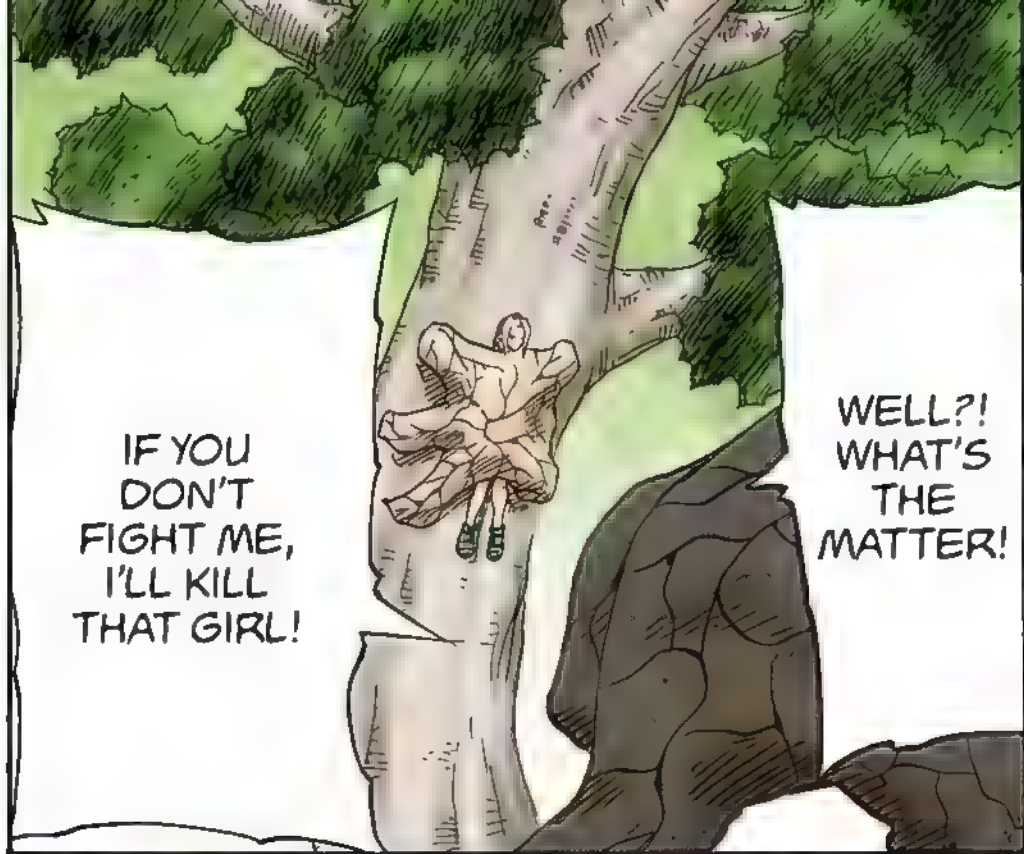
WHETHER
YOU FIGHT
FOR
YOURSELF...

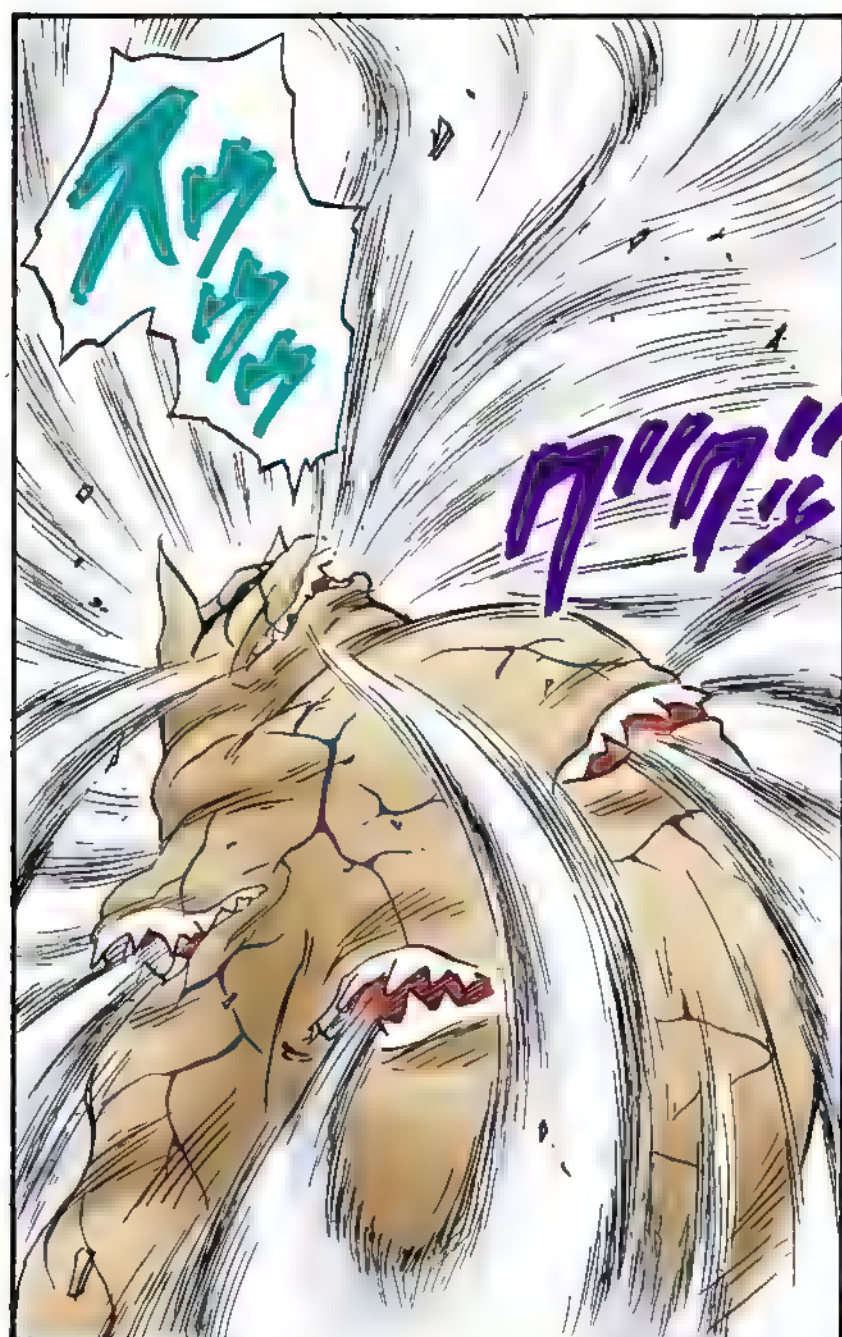


SHOW ME
YOUR
POWER,
JUST LIKE
WHEN YOU
TOOK DOWN
HYUGA!

NOW!
FIGHT
ME!!

I'LL GRIND
THAT
POWER
INTO
NOTHING-
NESS!!

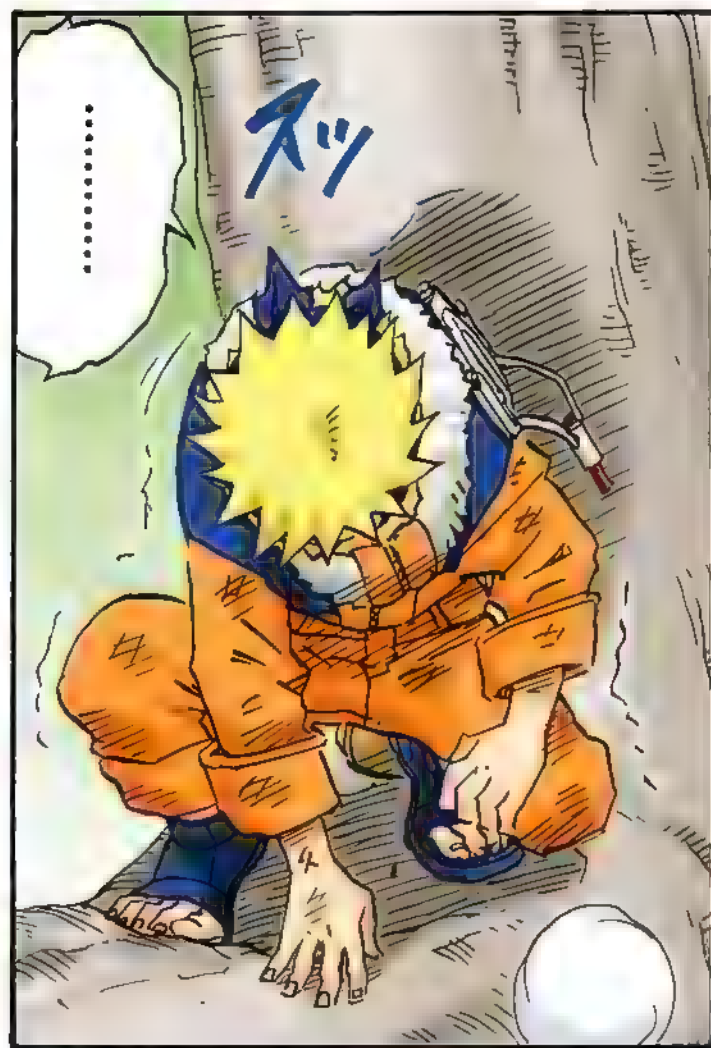
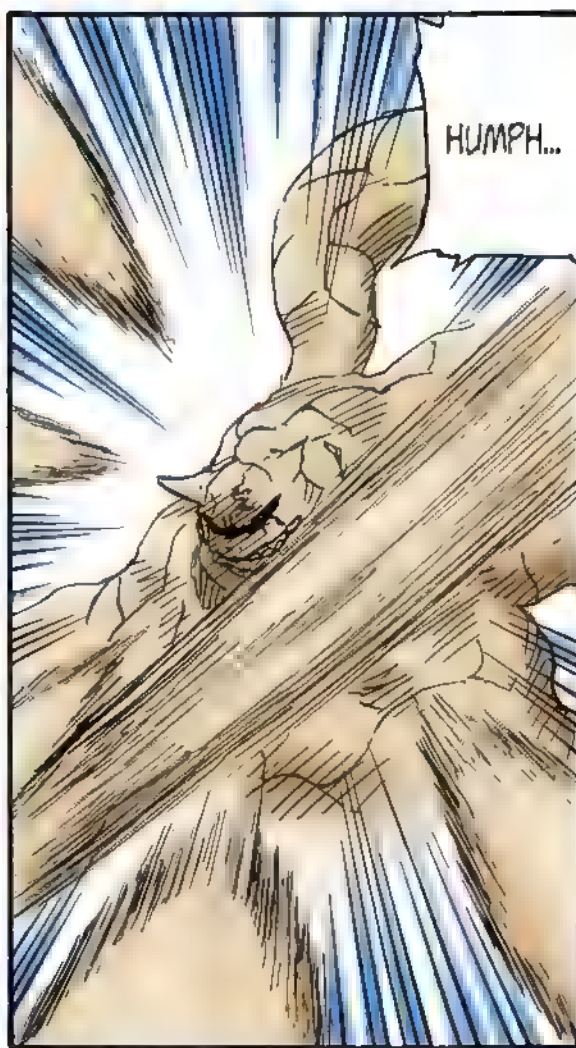
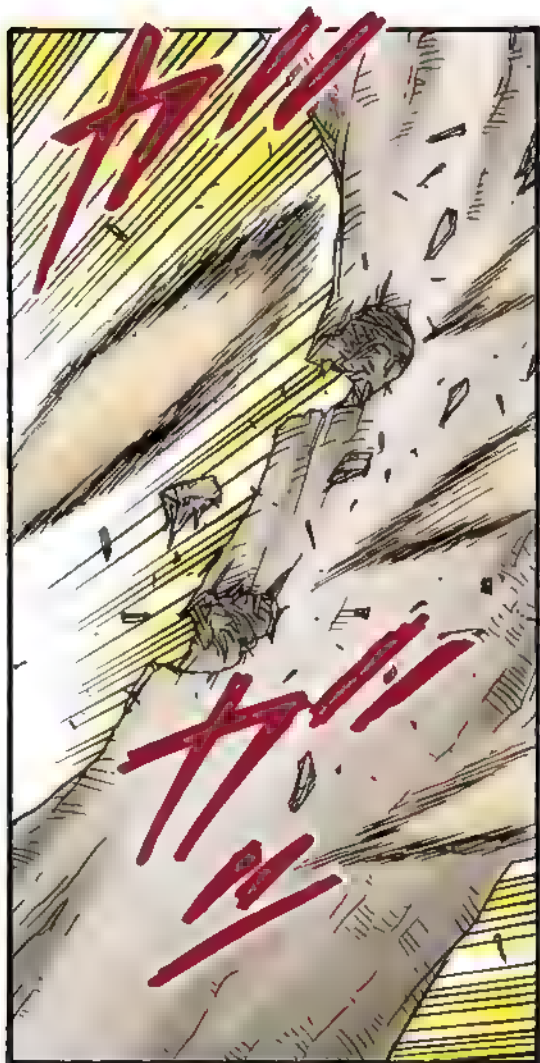
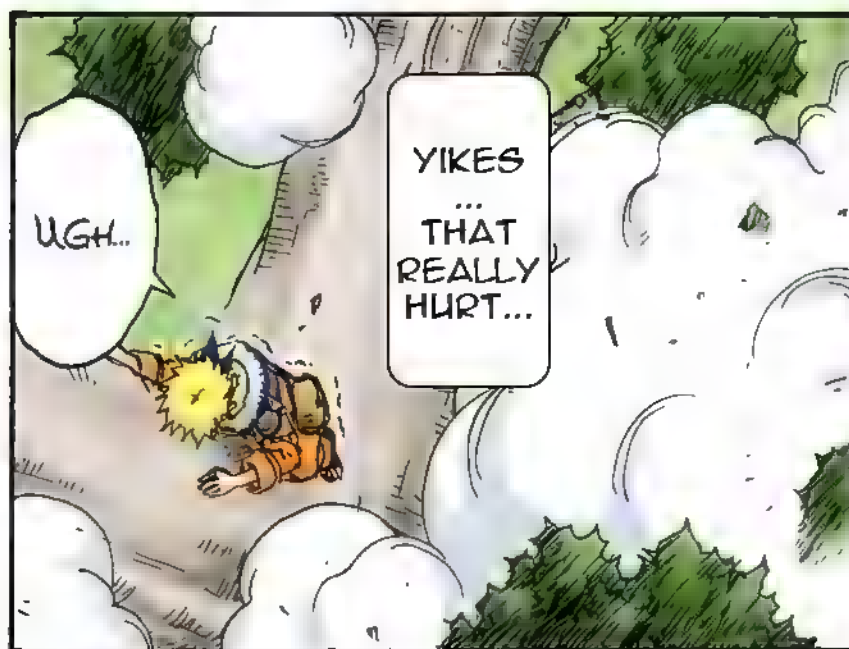


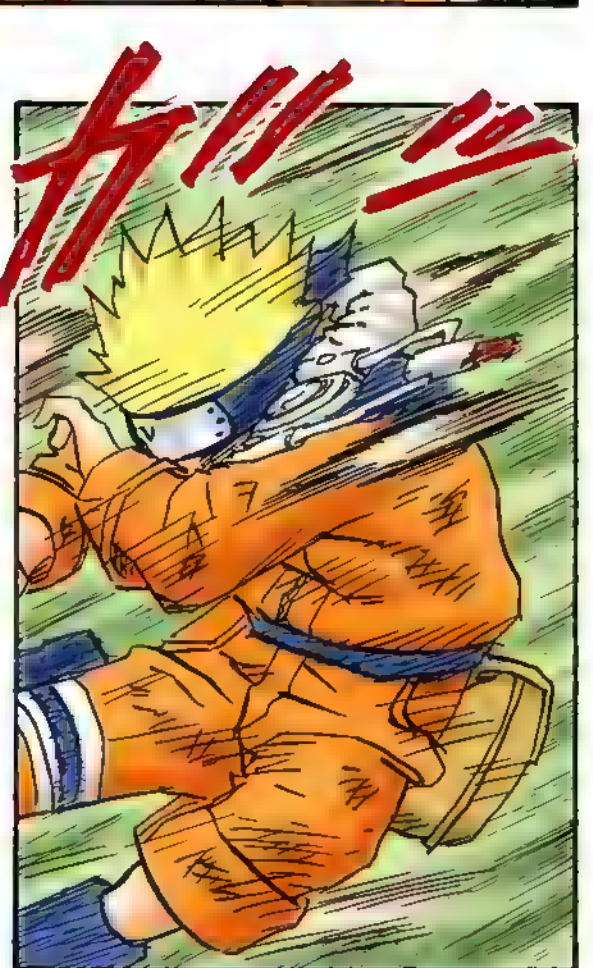
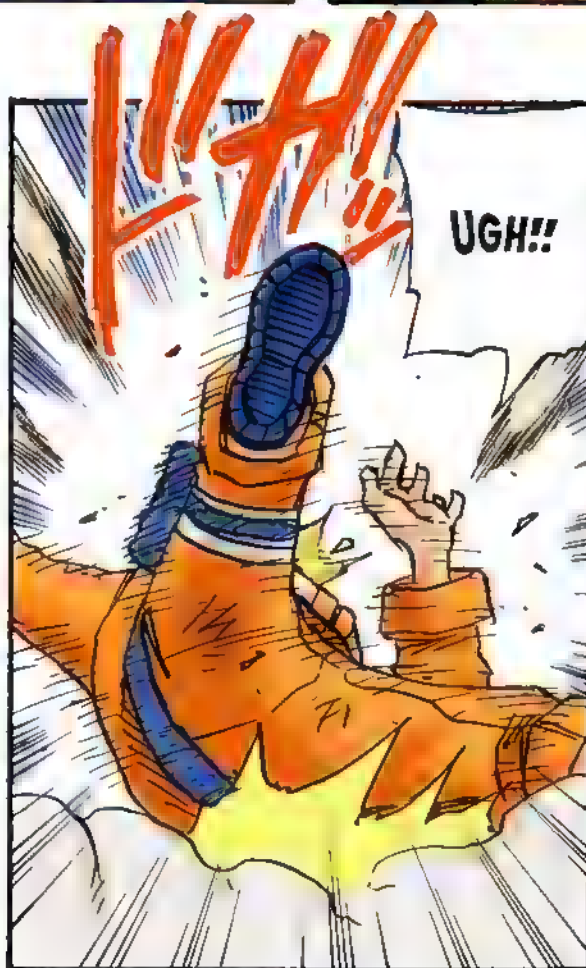
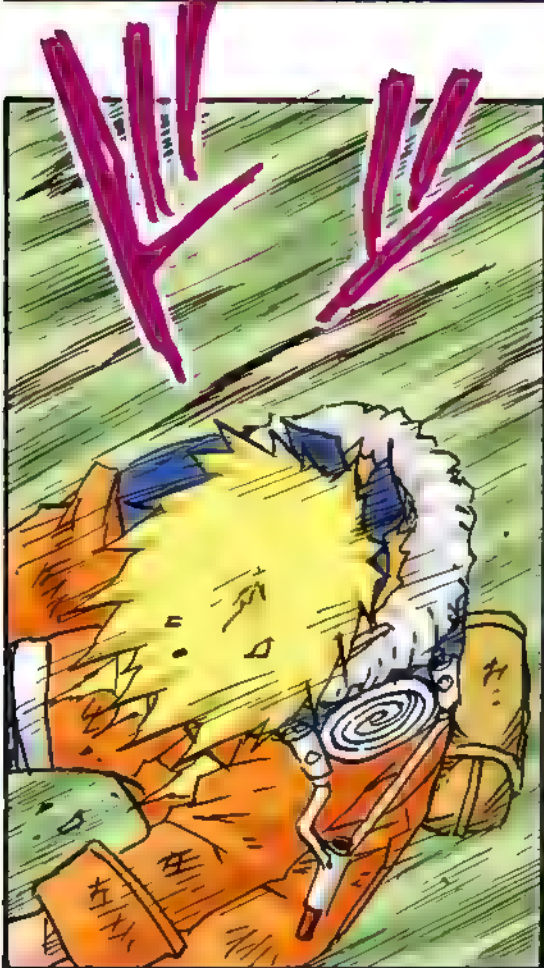
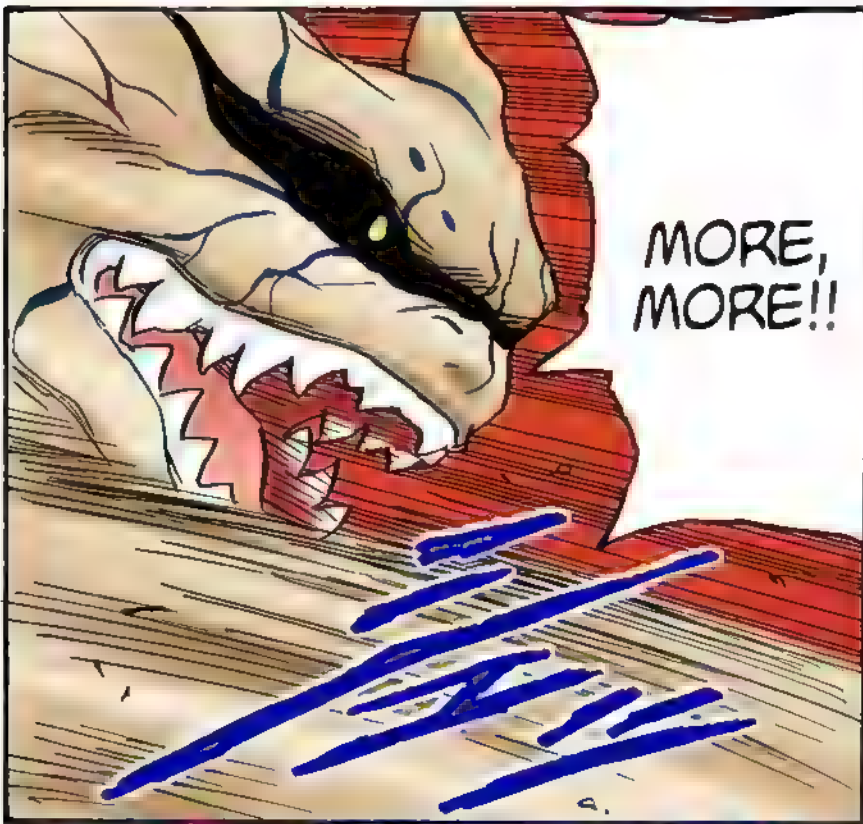
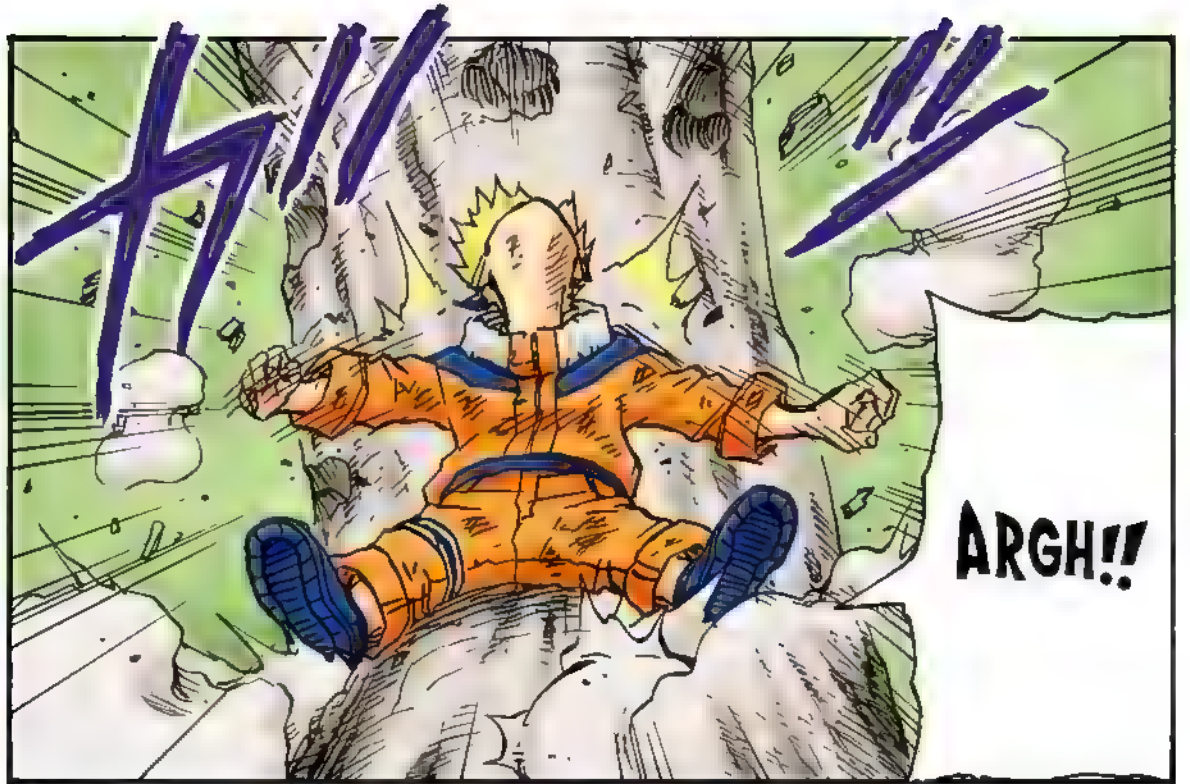
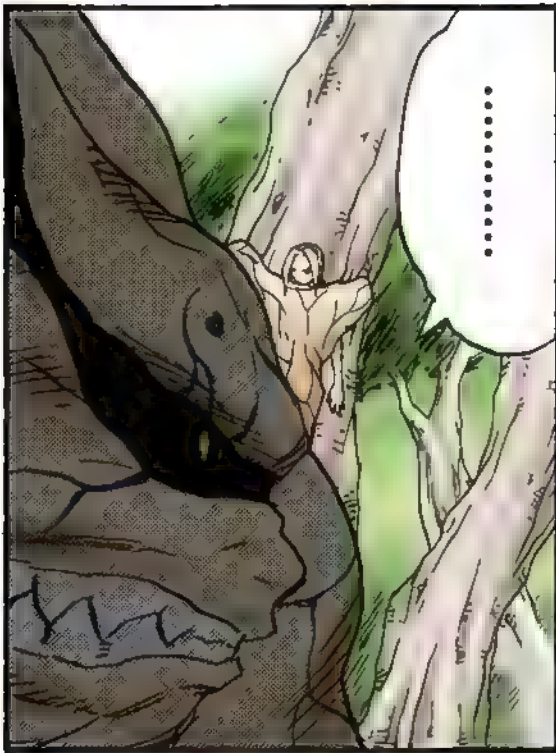


MULTI-
PLE
SHA-
DOW
DOP-
PEL
GANG-
ERS!!

WIND
STYLE:
MUGENSA-
JIN
DAITOPPA!
INFINITE
SAND
DEVASTA-
TION!!

WIND





ナンバー



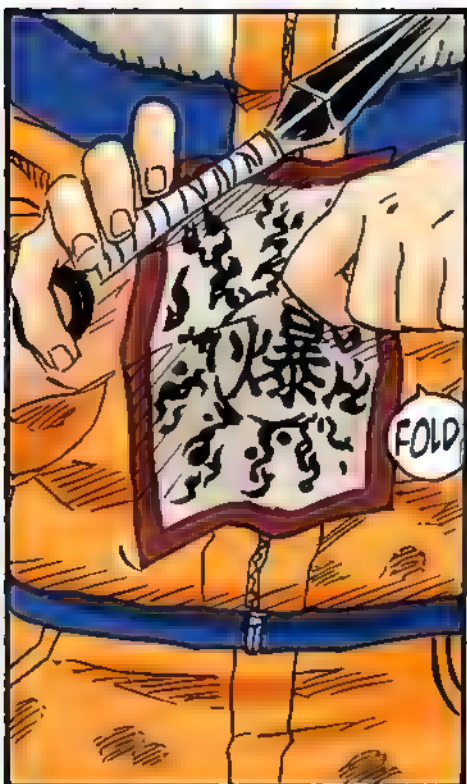
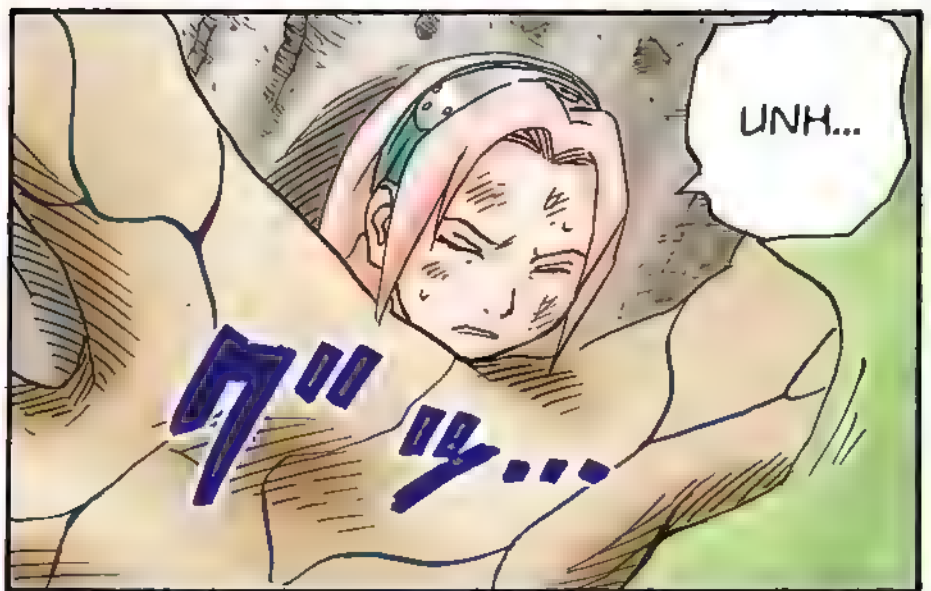
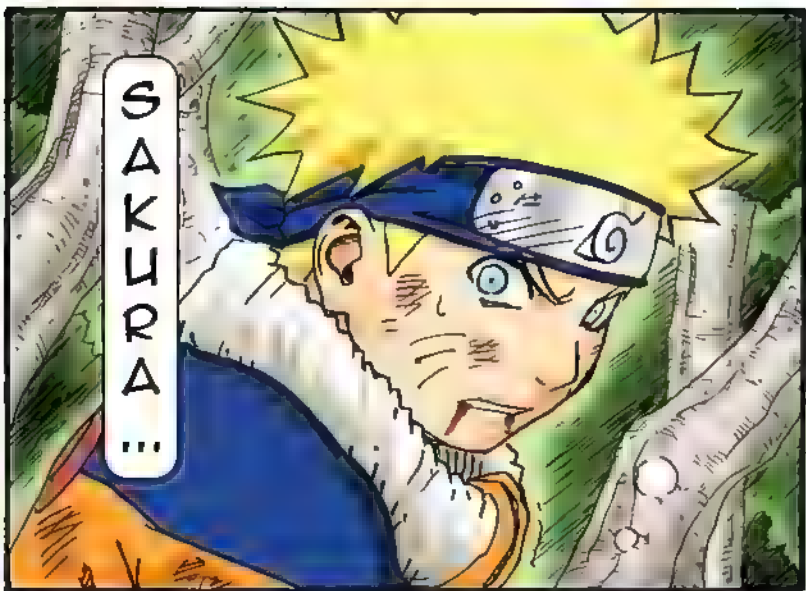
133 :



THOSE WHO ARE STRONG!!

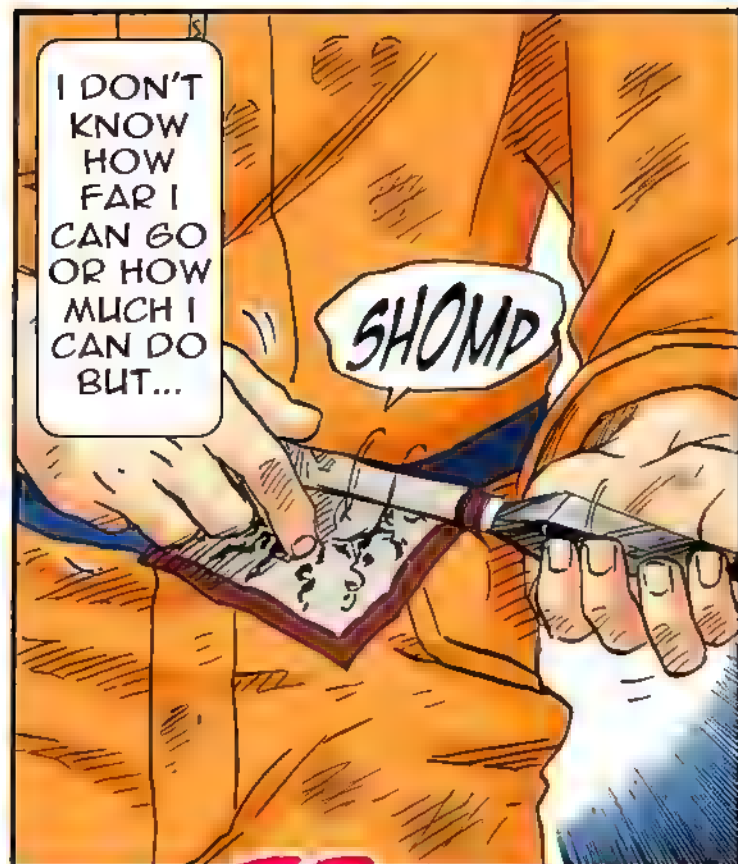
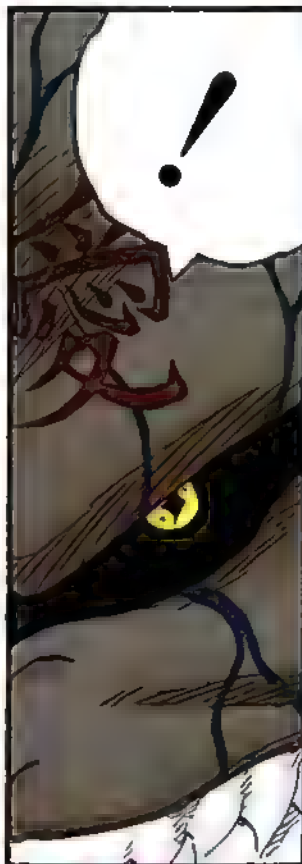
THE
LOOK
IN HIS
EYES...
DID IT
CHANGE?







I'M
GONNA
GIVE
IT
EVERY-
THING
I'VE
GOT!!

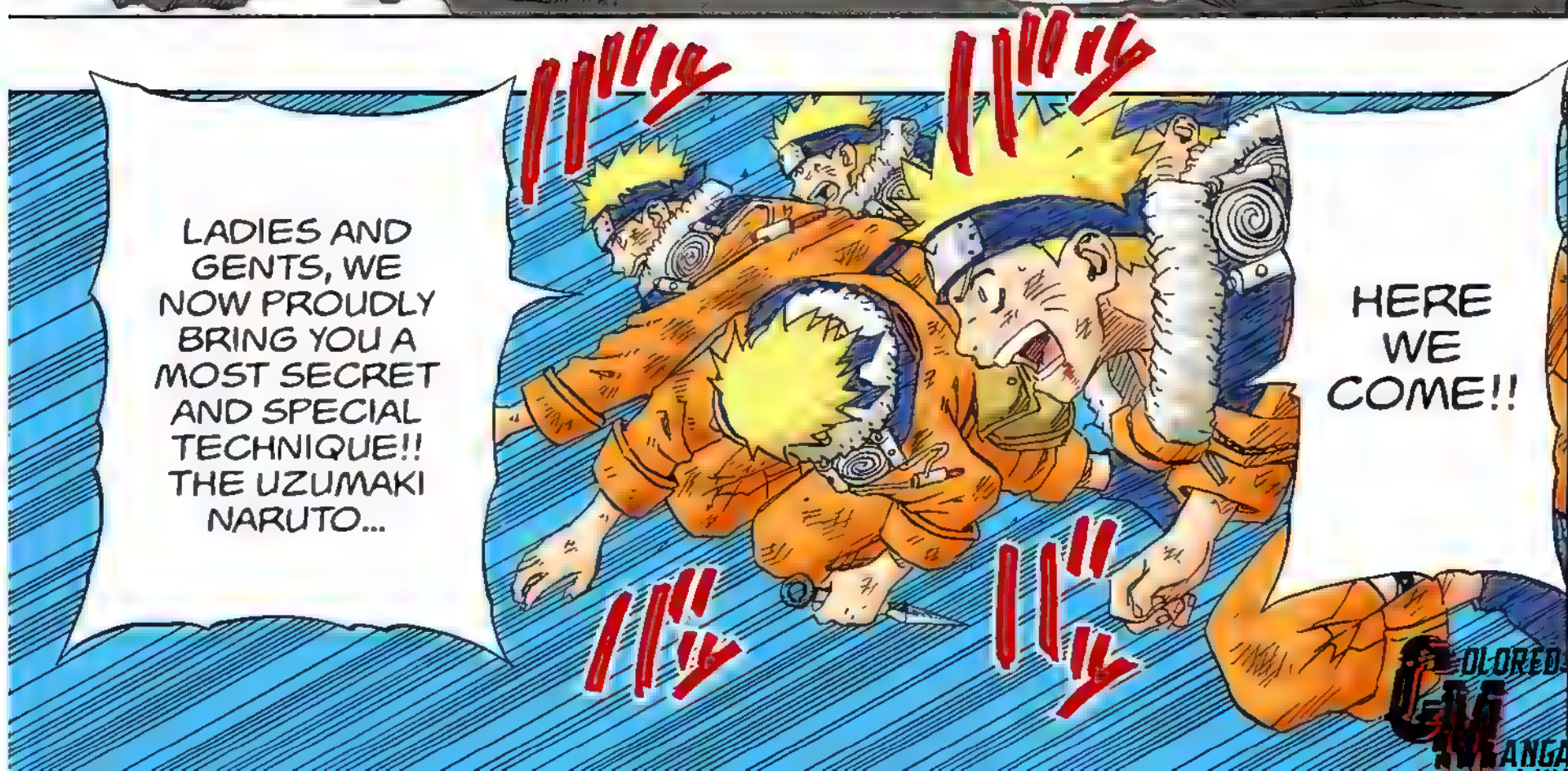


I DON'T
KNOW
HOW
FAR I
CAN GO
OR HOW
MUCH I
CAN DO
BUT...

SHOMP

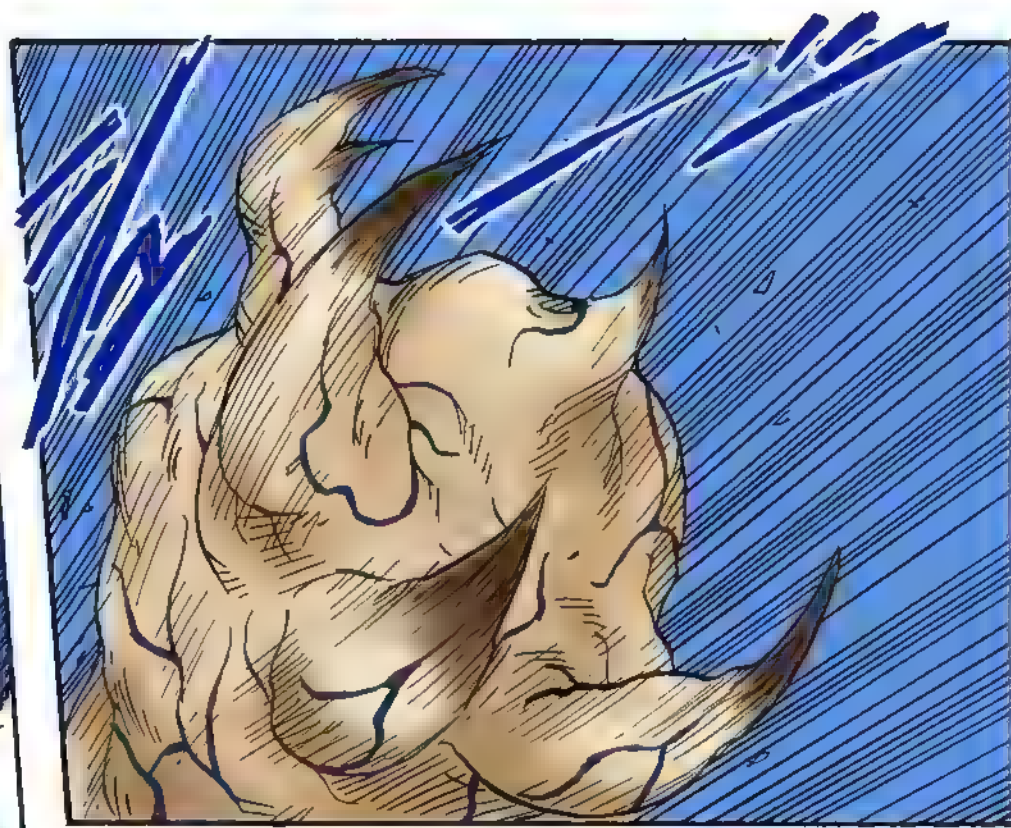
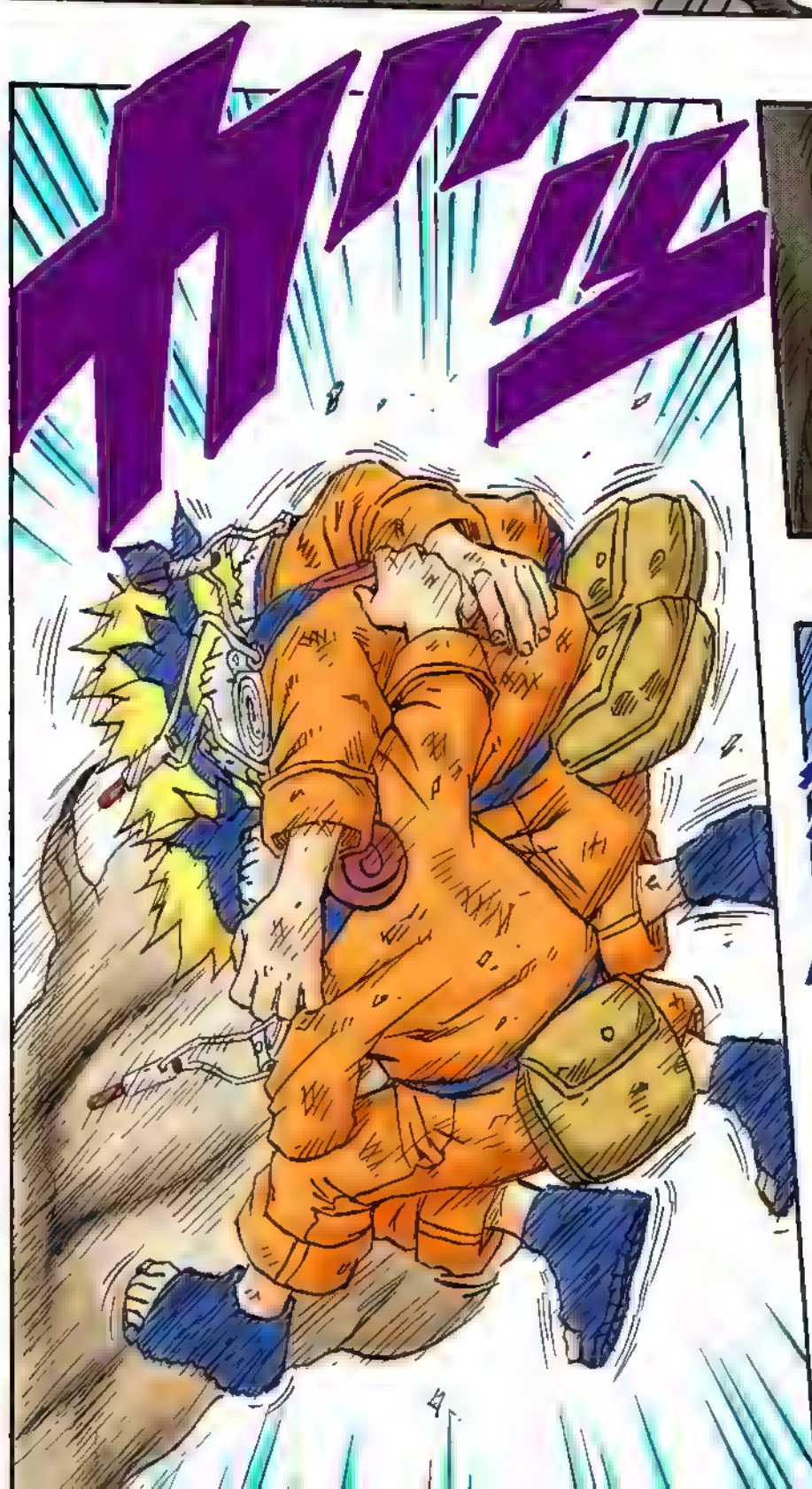
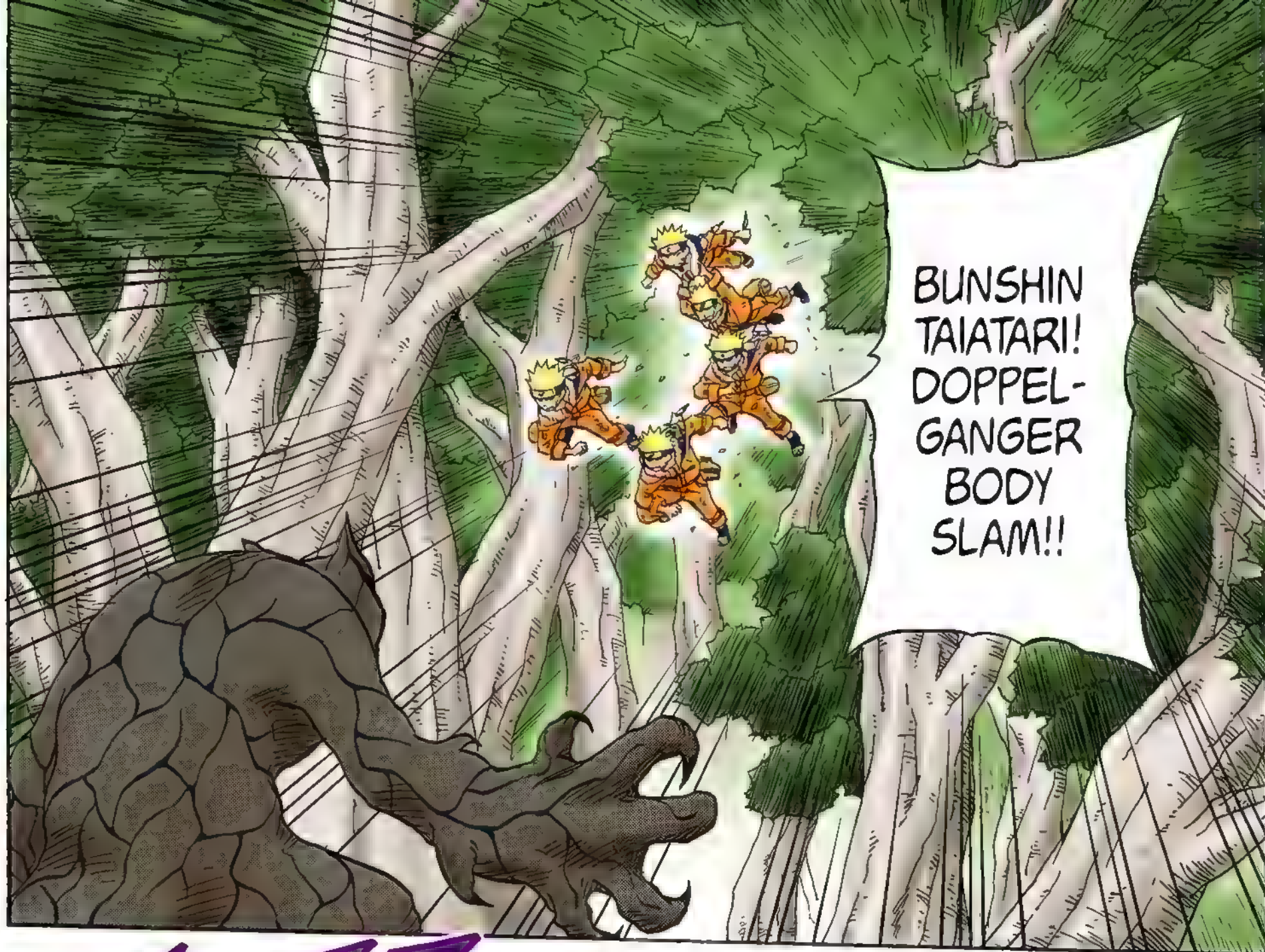


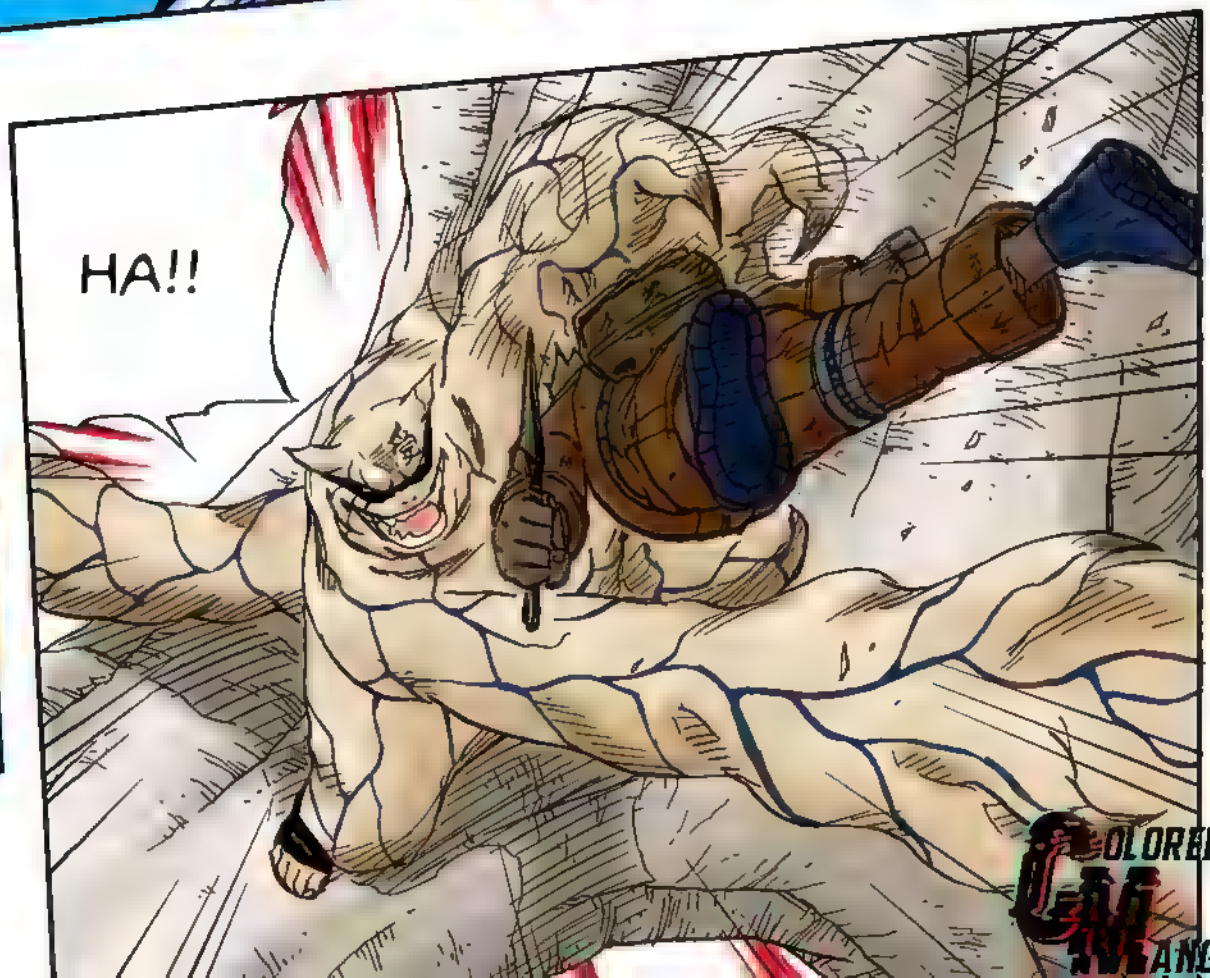
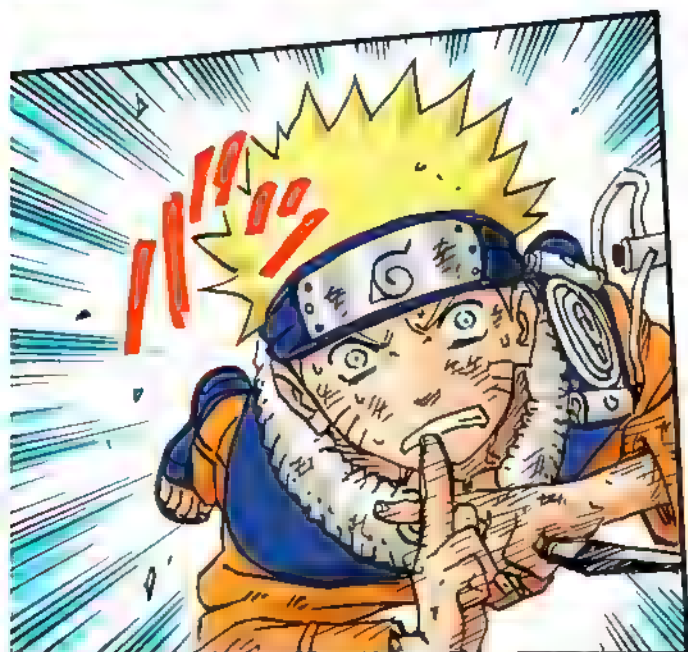
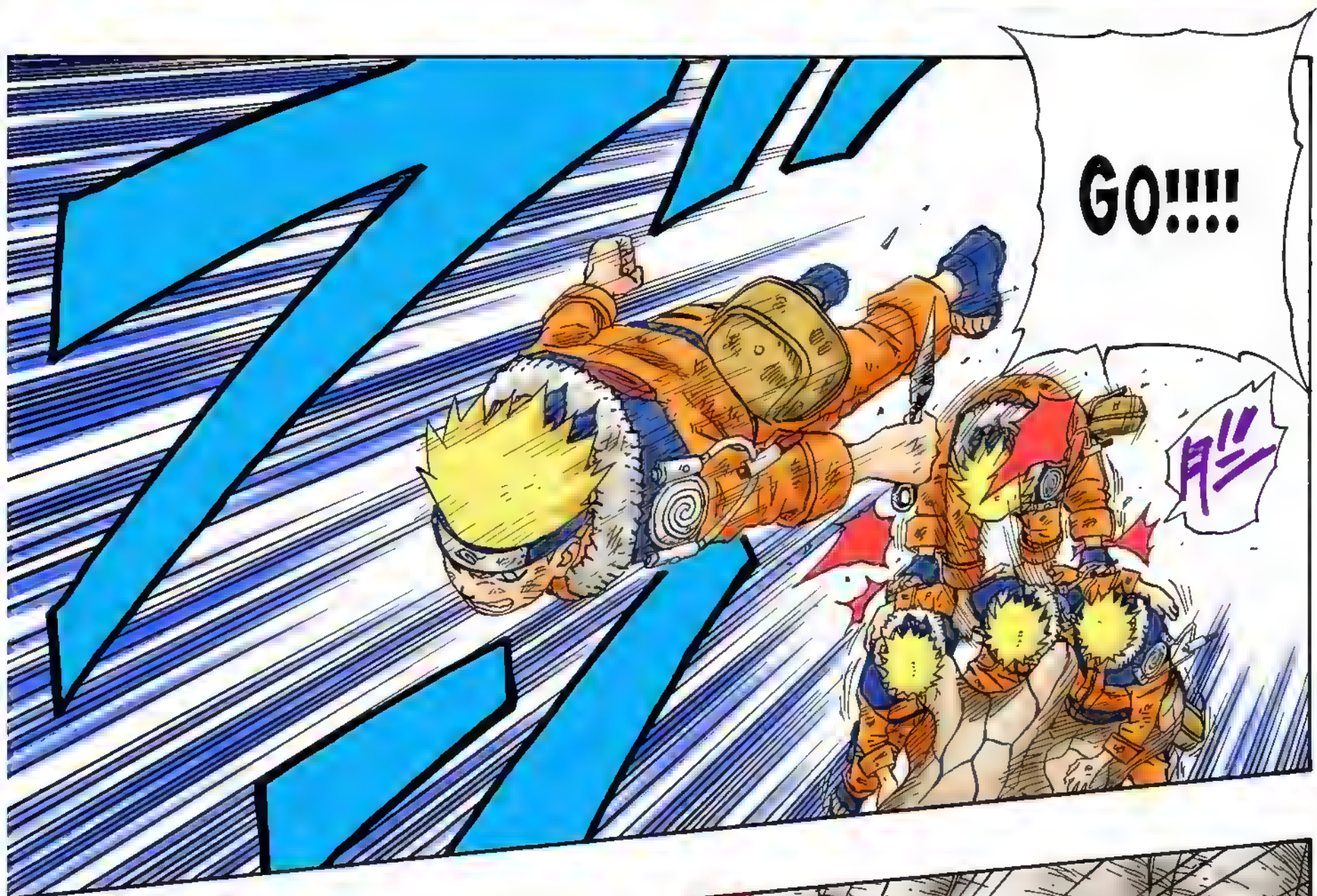
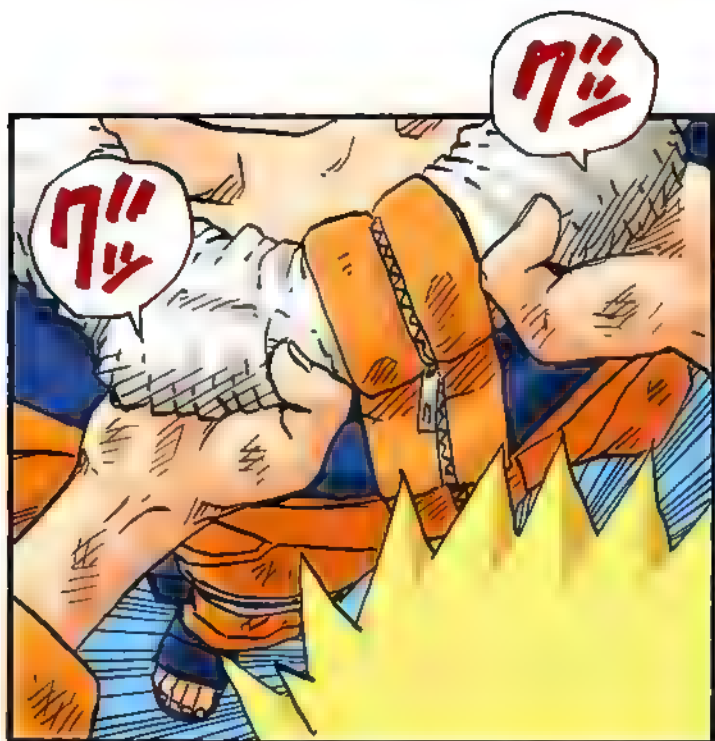
ART
OF
THE
SHA-
DOW
DOP-
PEL
GANG-
ER!!

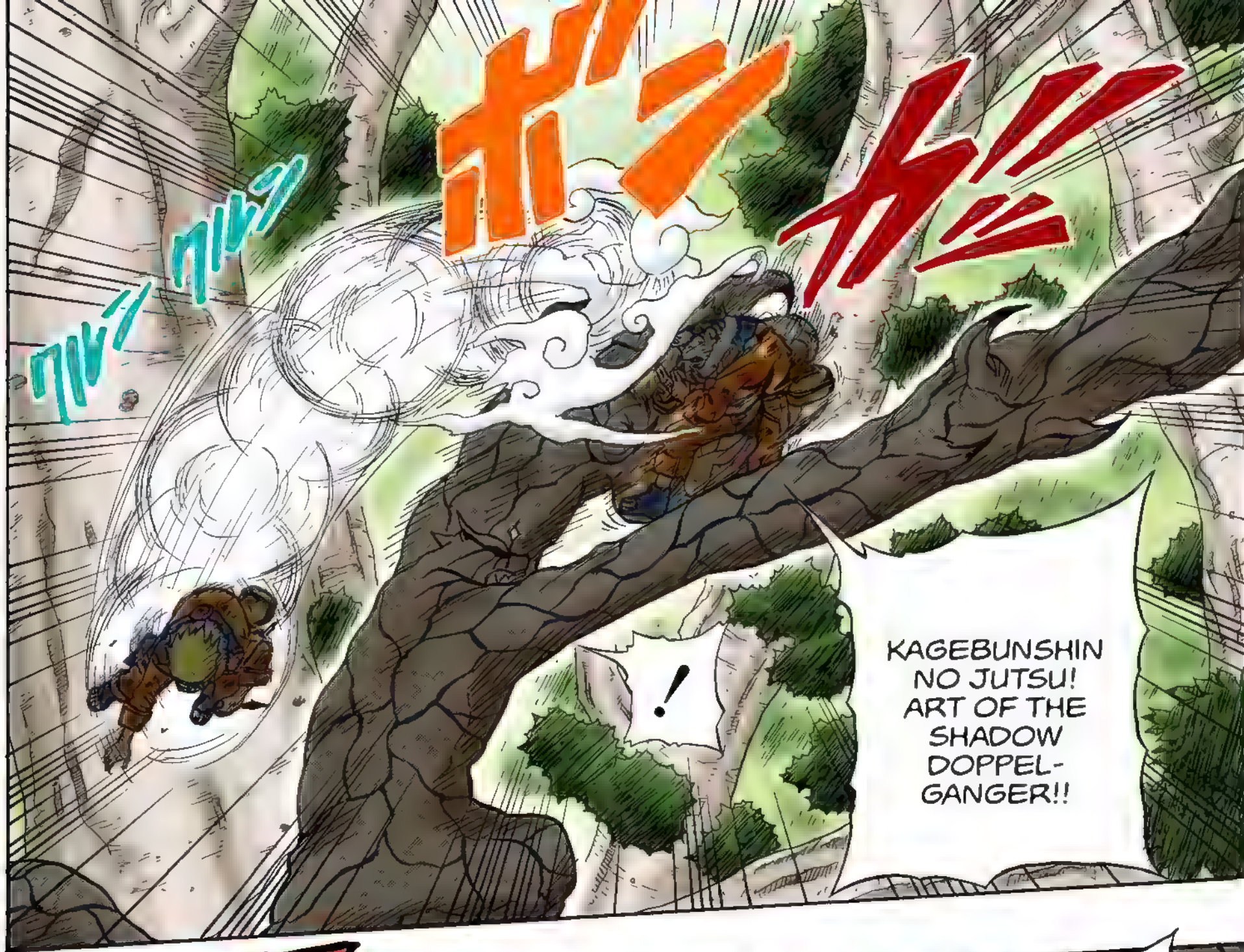


LADIES AND
GENTS, WE
NOW PROUDLY
BRING YOU A
MOST SECRET
AND SPECIAL
TECHNIQUE!!
THE UZUMAKI
NARUTO...

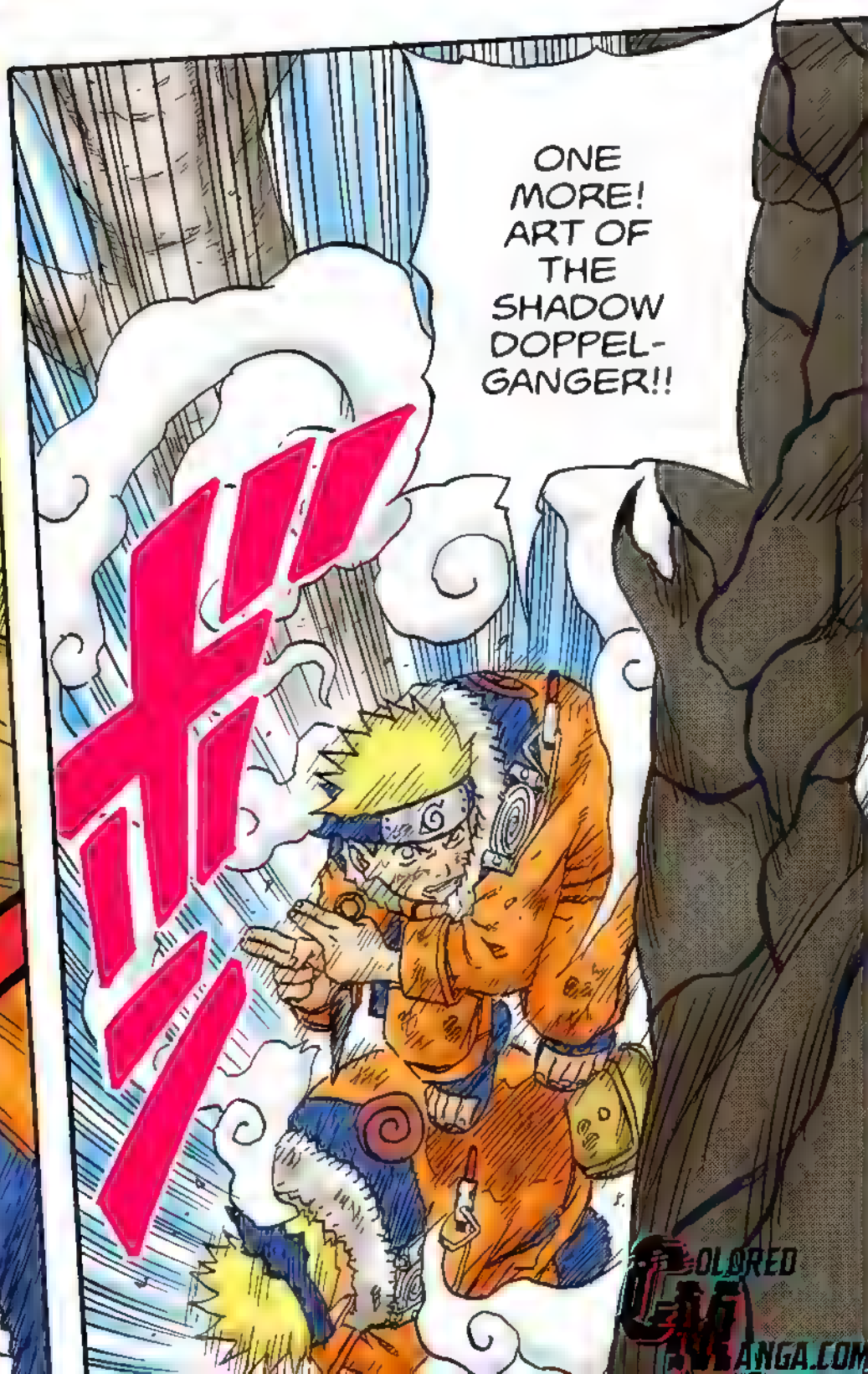
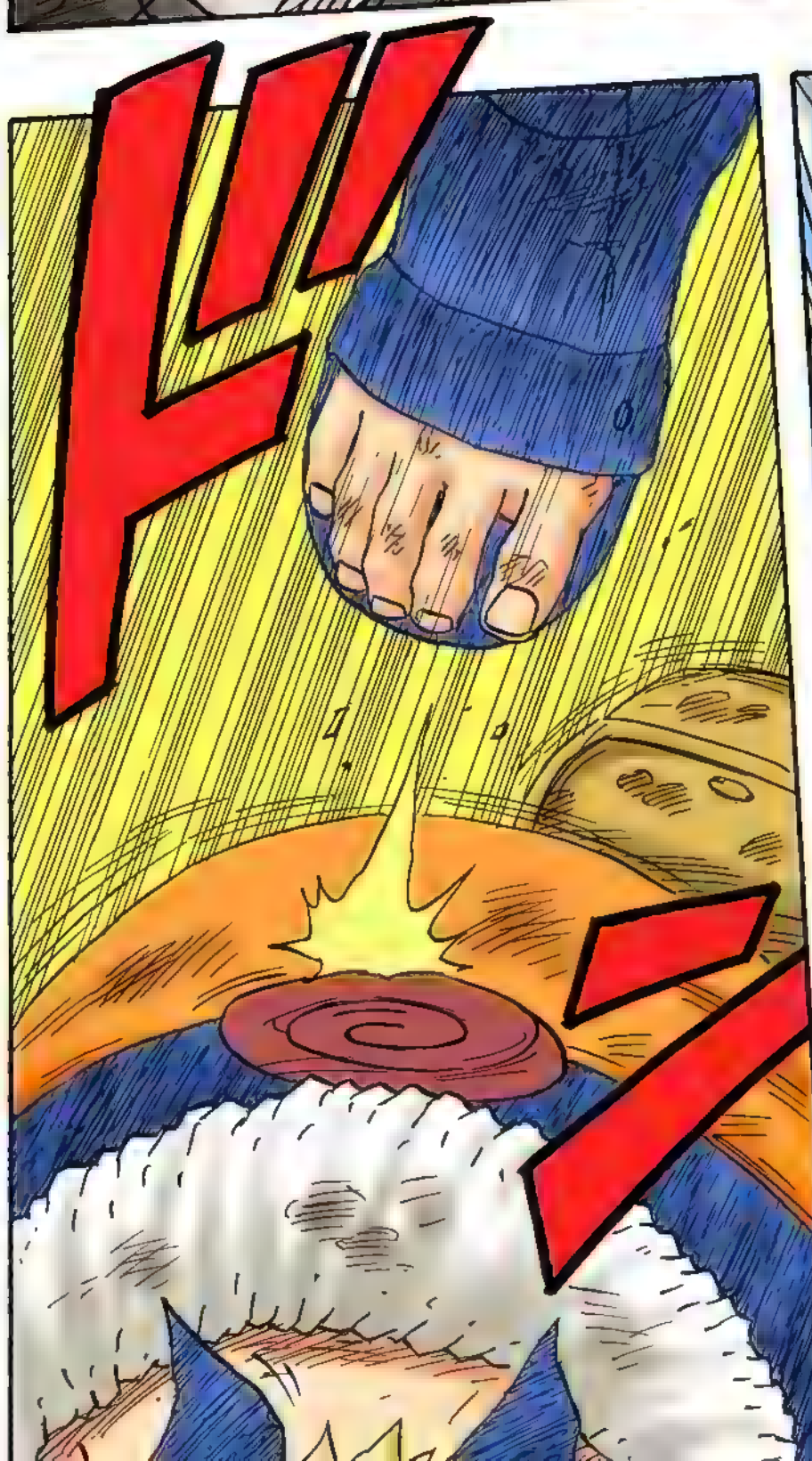
HERE
WE
COME!!



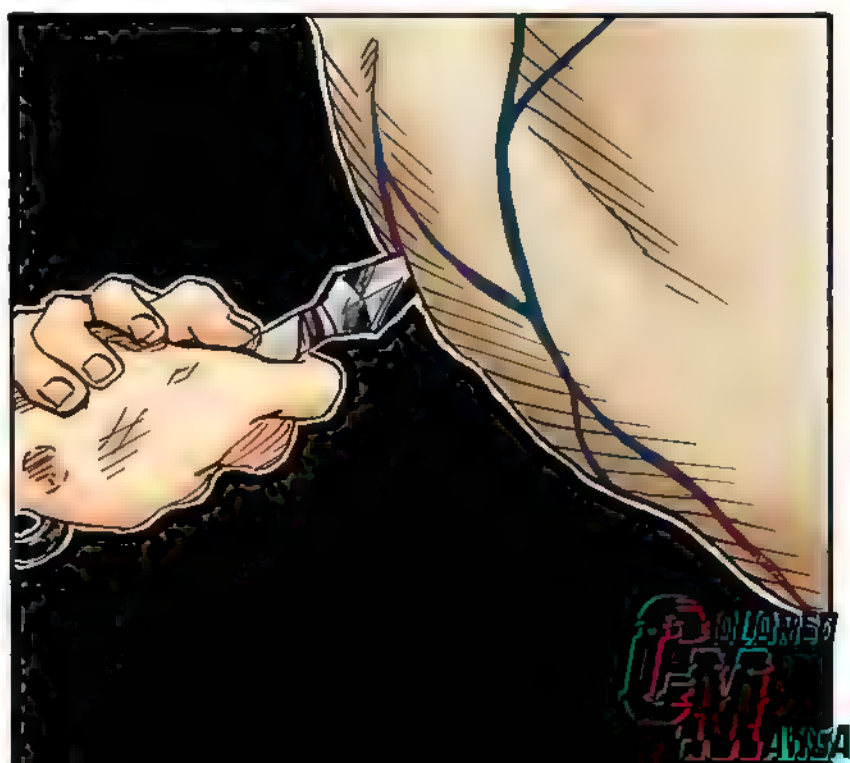
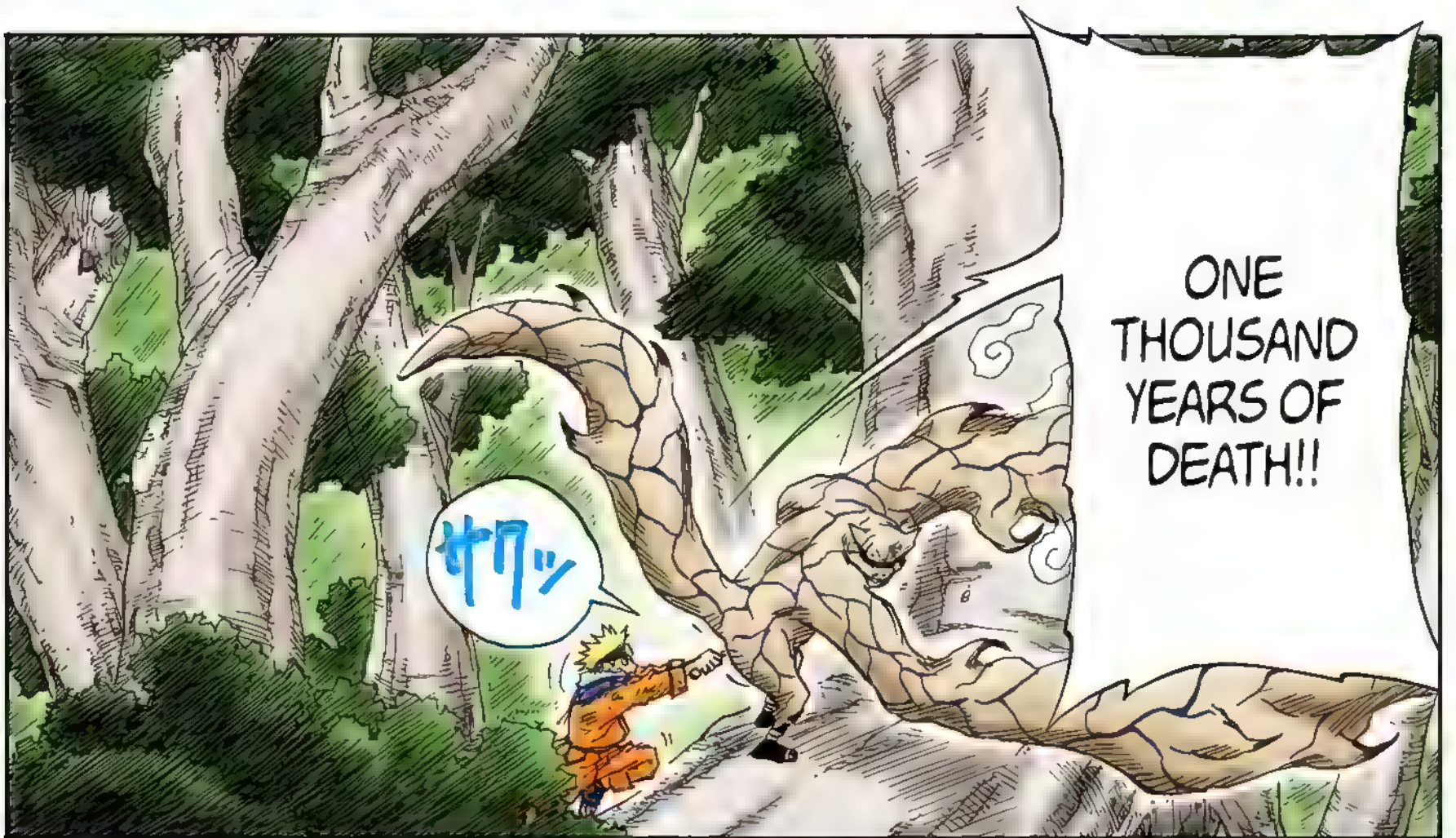
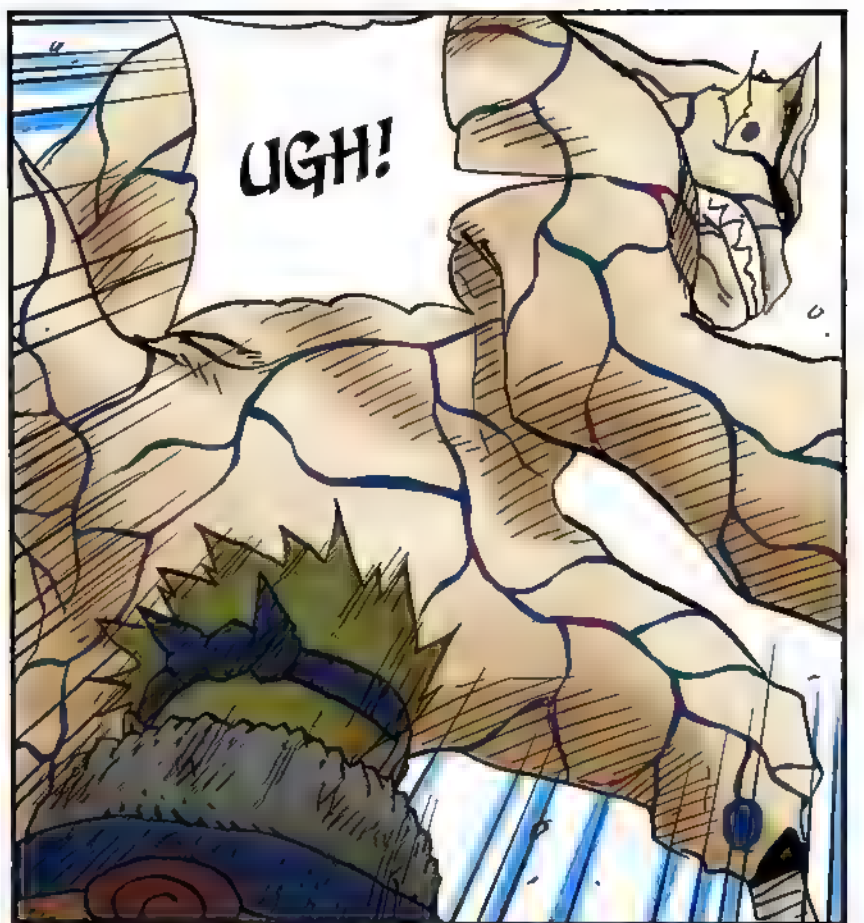


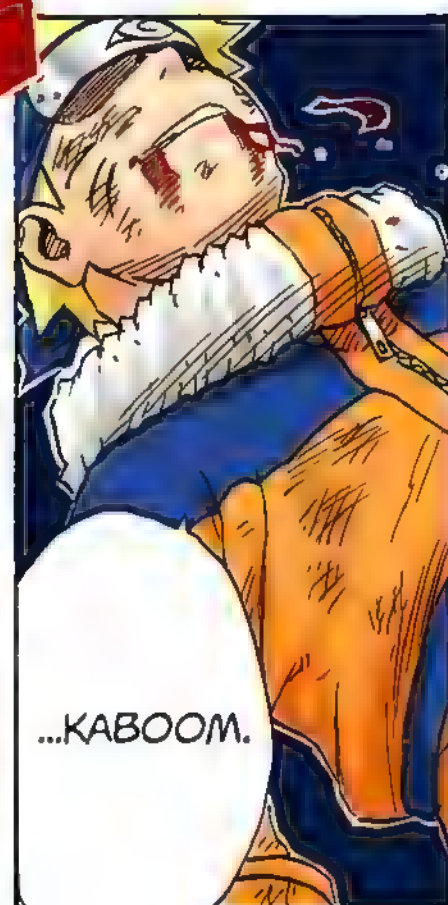
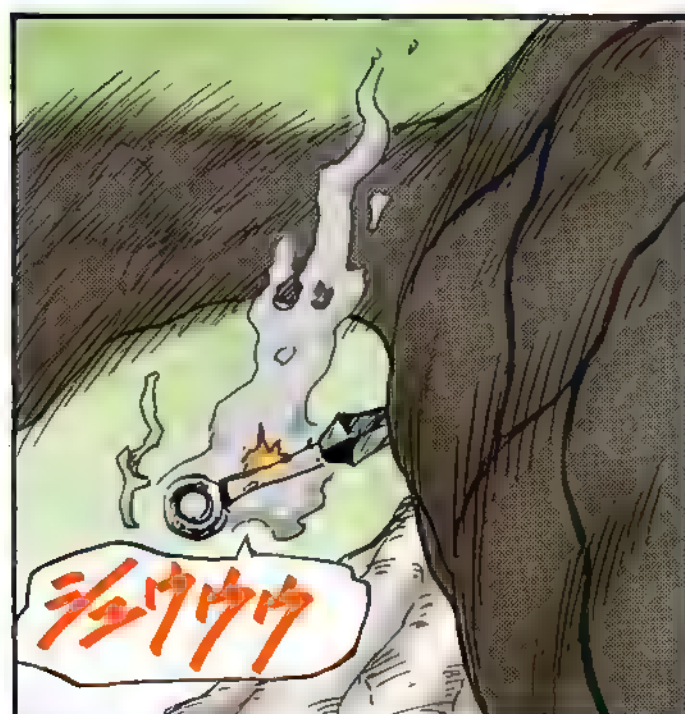
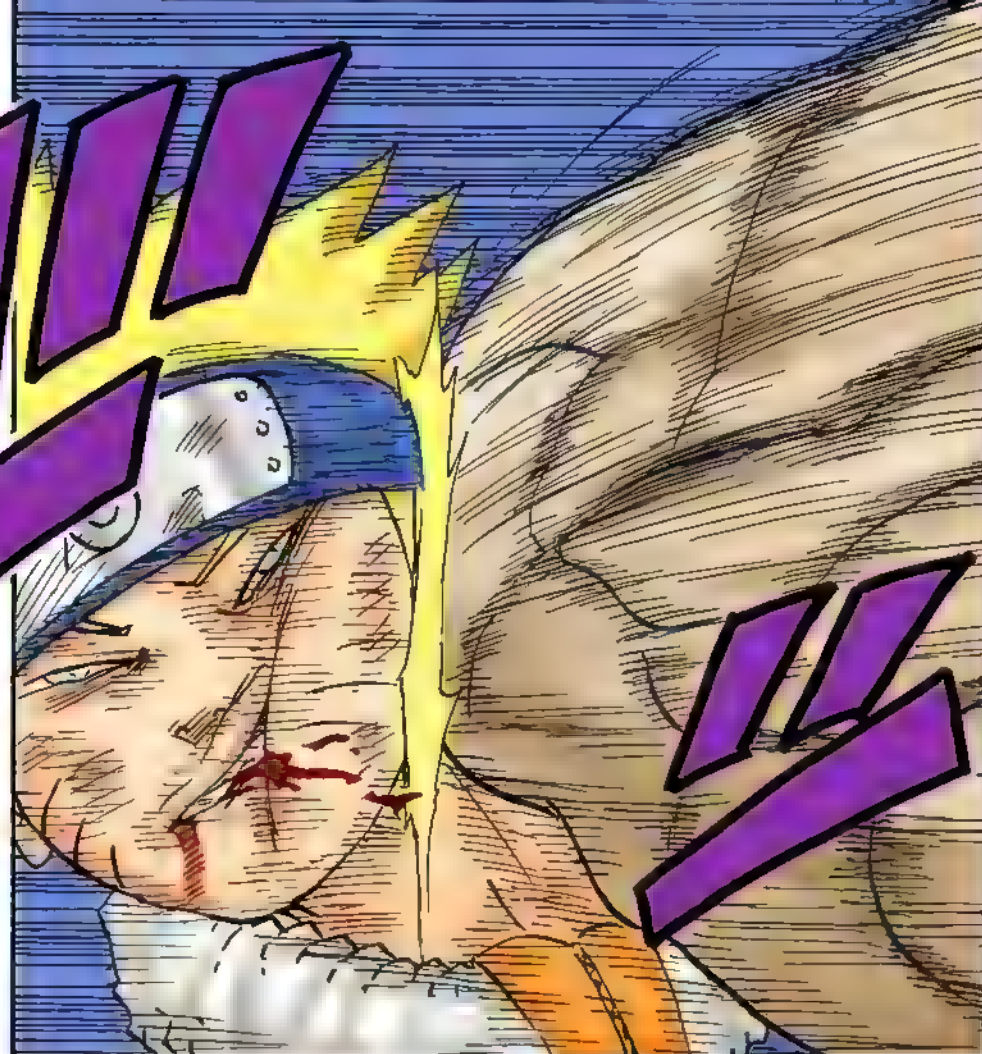


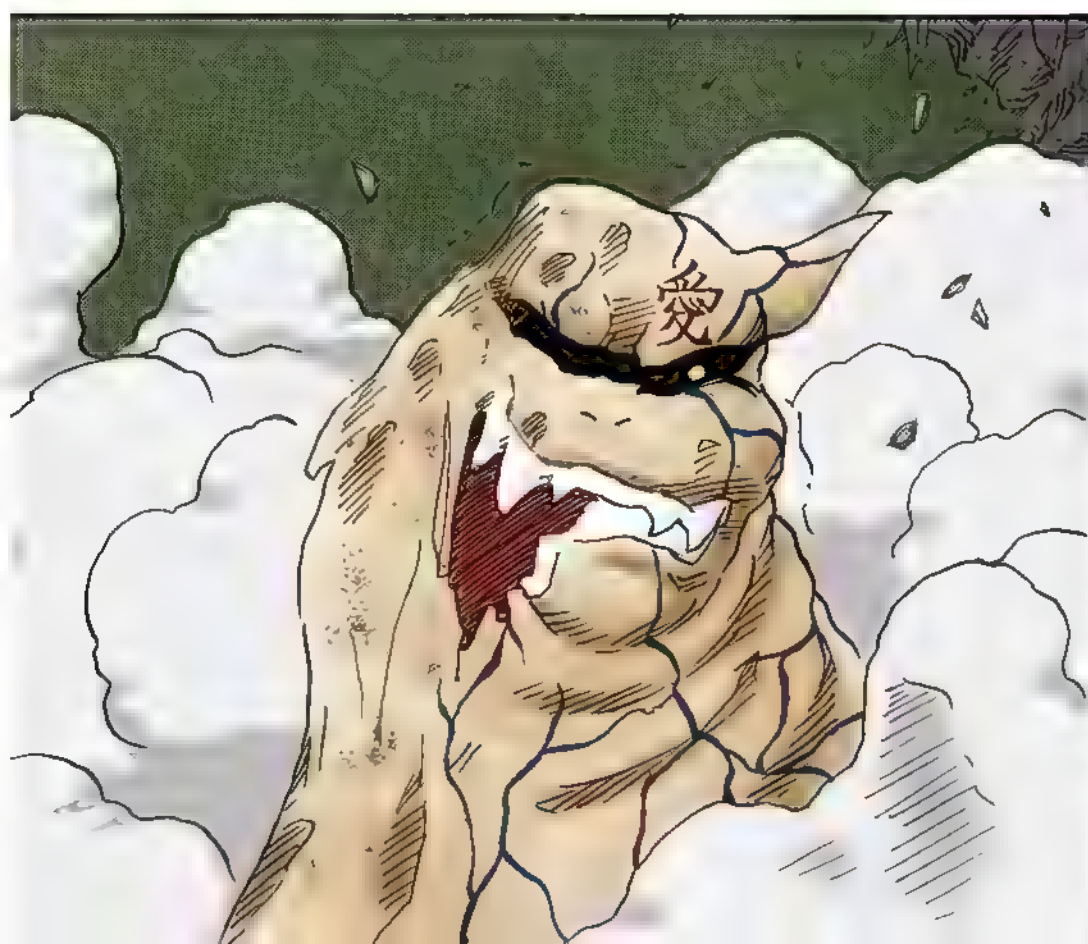
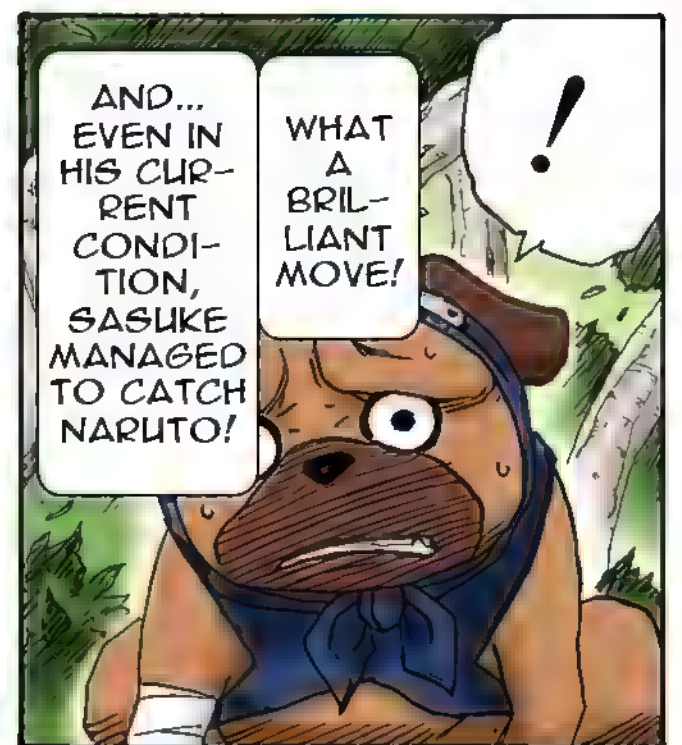
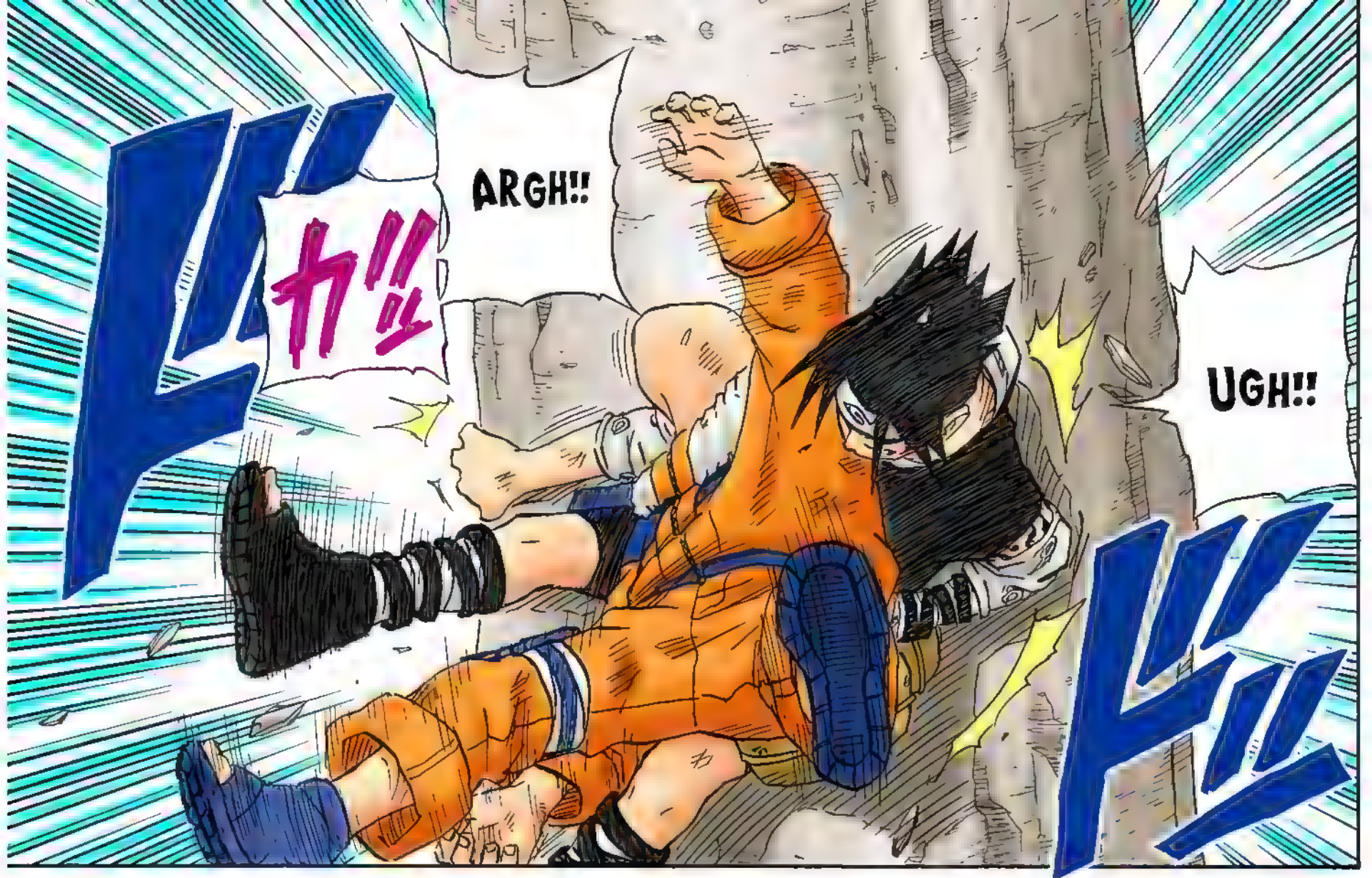
KAGEBUNSHIN
NO JUTSU!
ART OF THE
SHADOW
DOPPEL-
GANGER!!

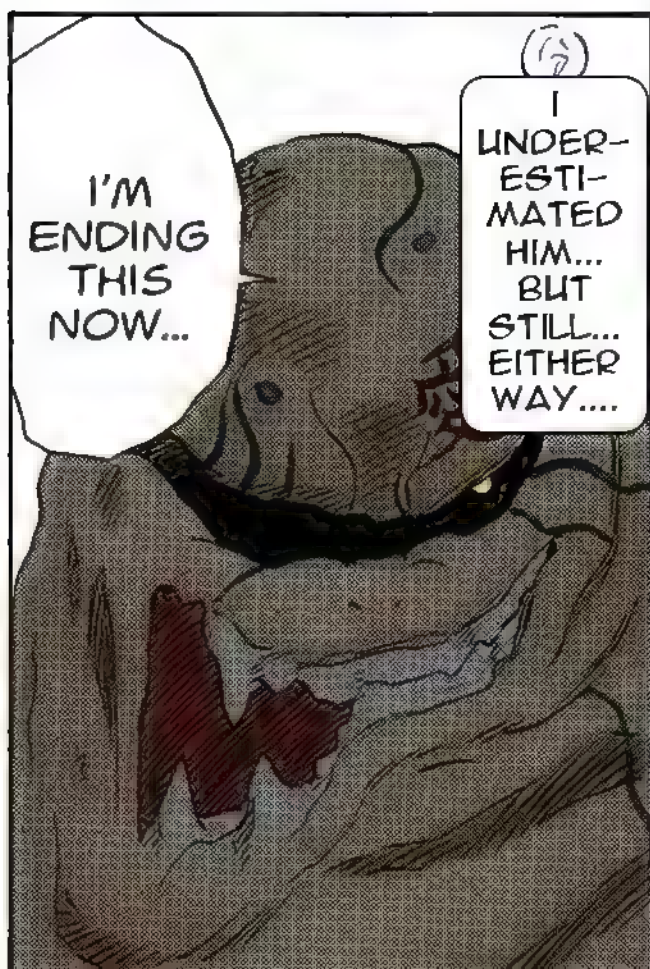
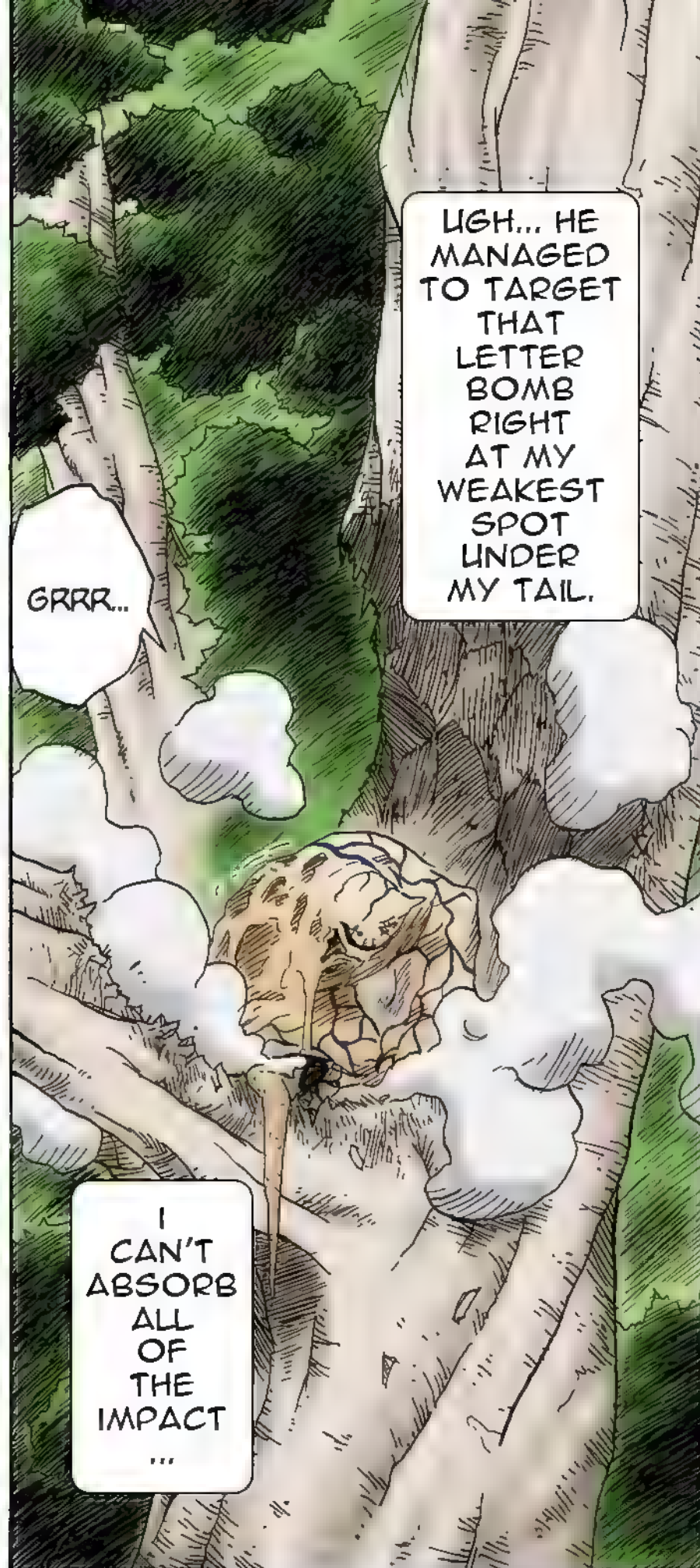
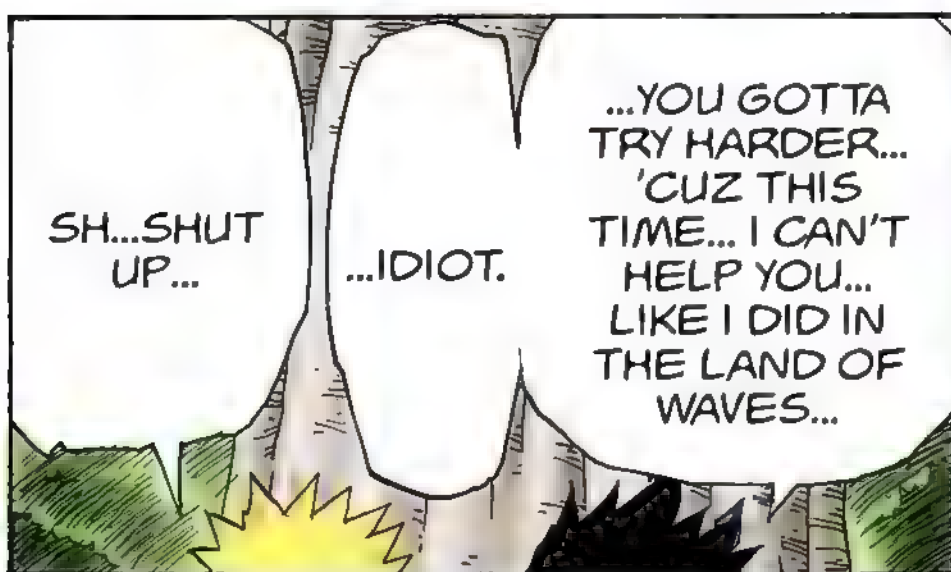


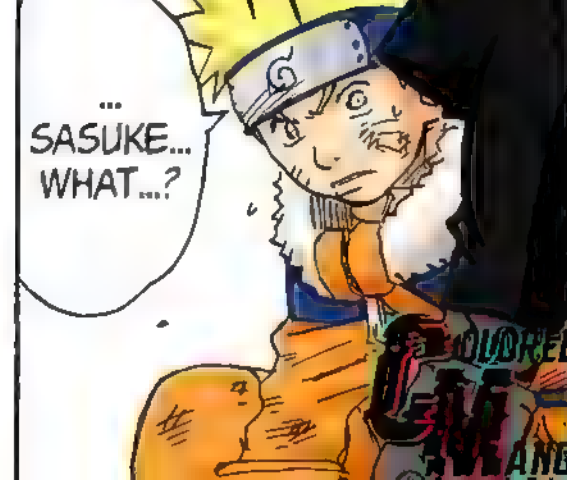
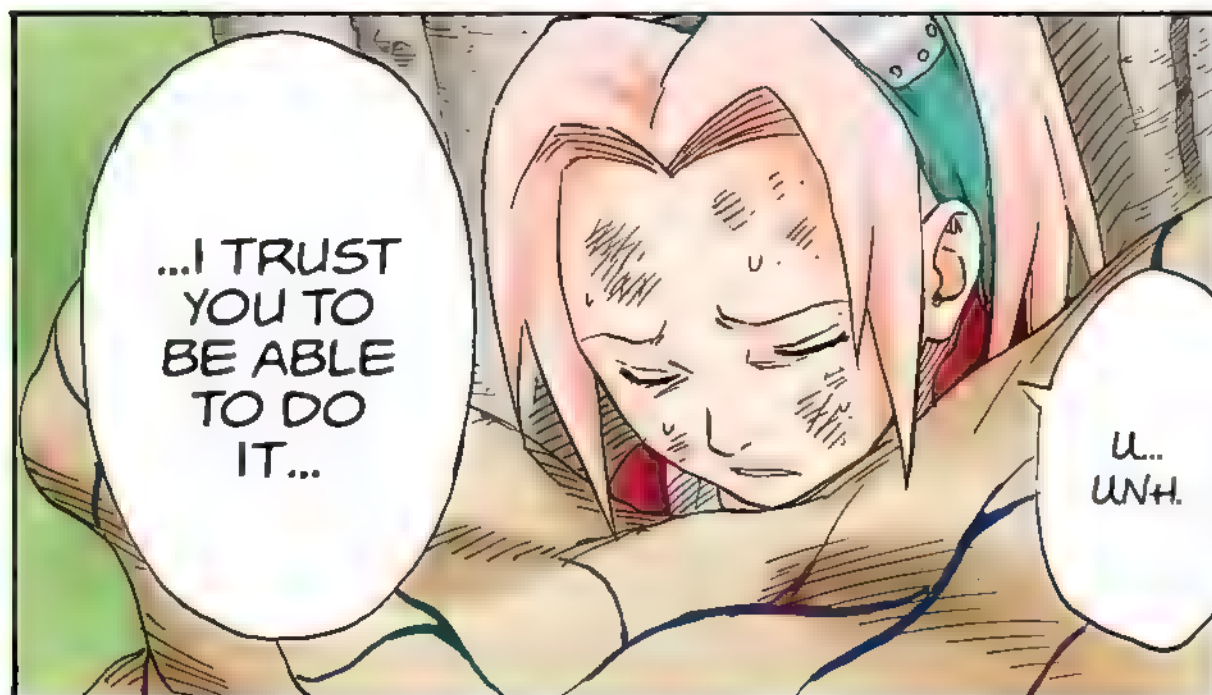
ONE
MORE!
ART OF THE
SHADOW
DOPPEL-
GANGER!!

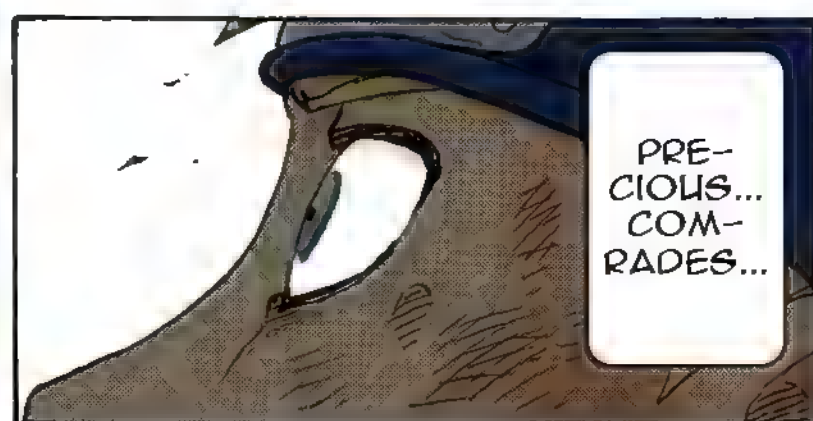
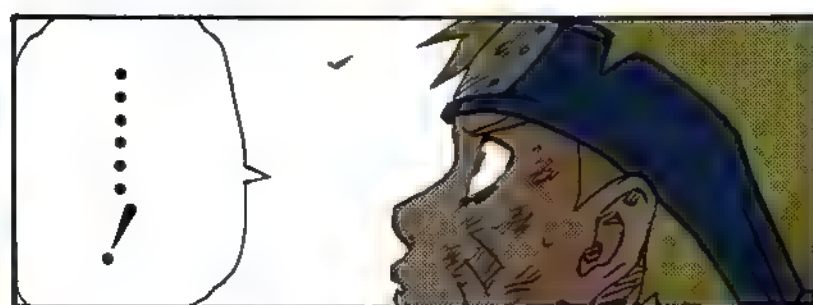


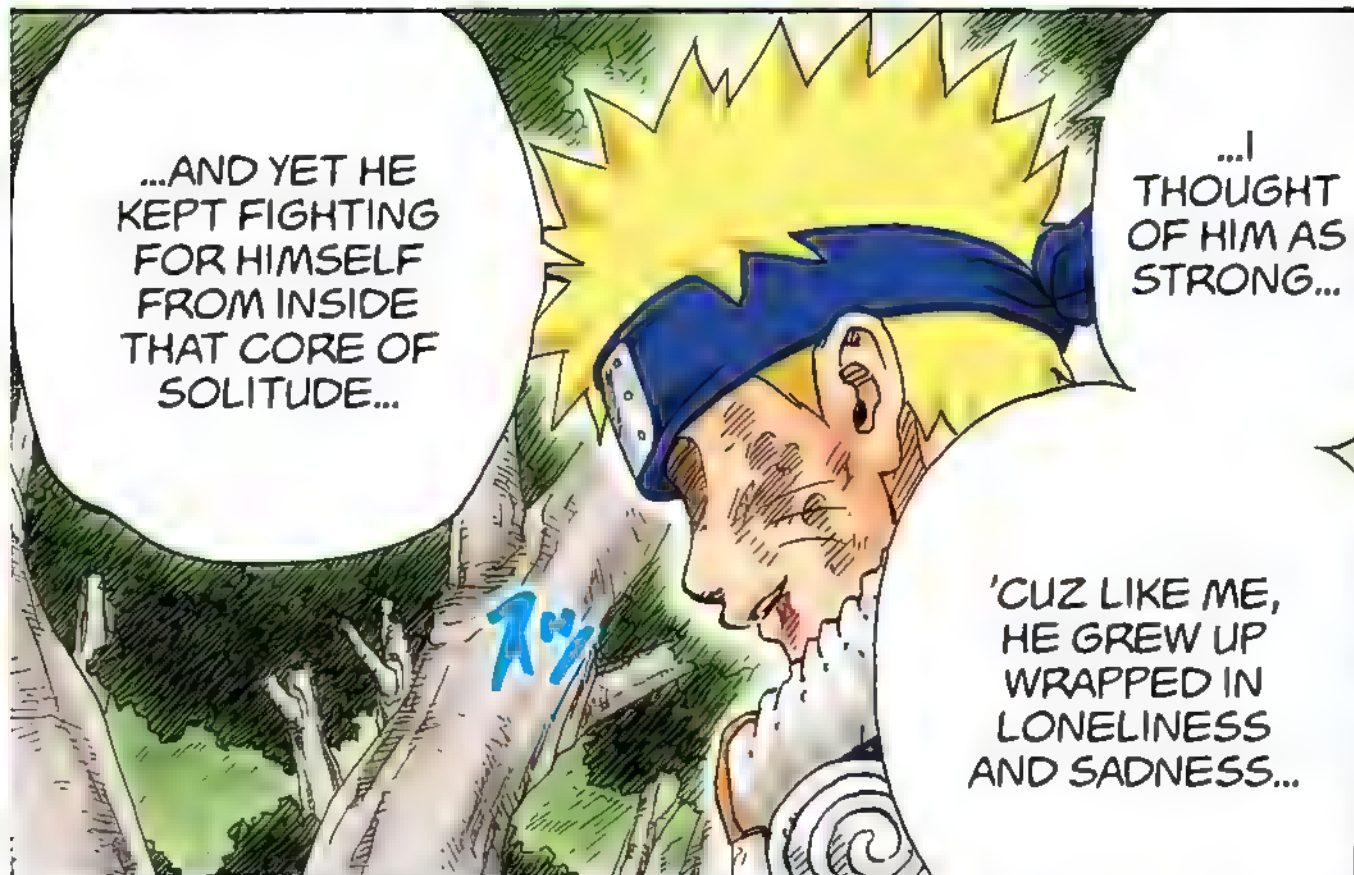












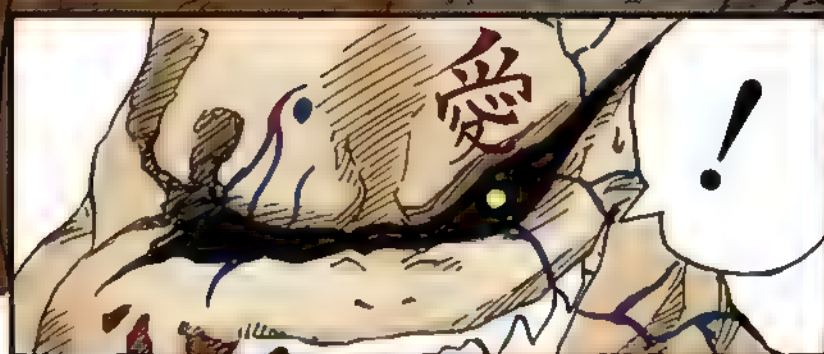
ANYONE
SPECIAL
IN
YOUR
LIFE?

DO
YOU
HAVE...

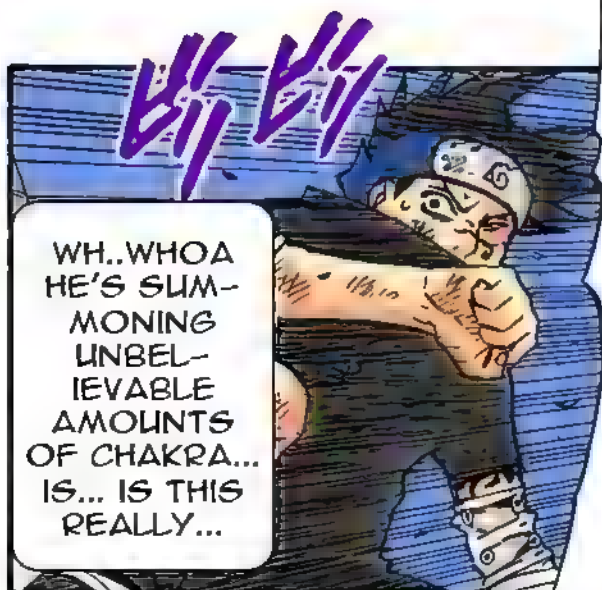
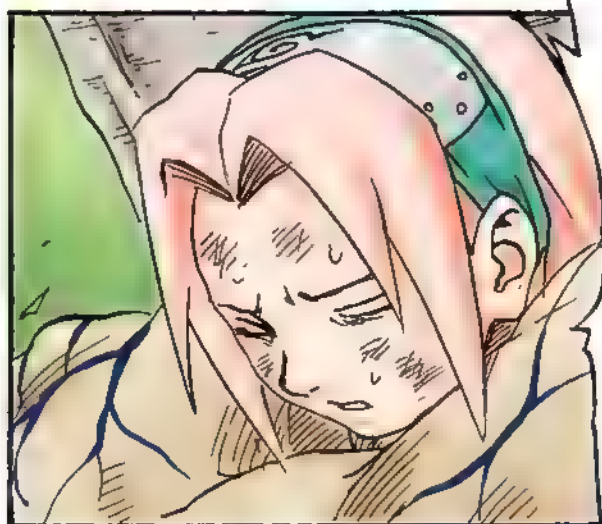


WHEN
PEOPLE...
ARE
PROTE-
CTING
SOMEONE
TRULY
PRECIOUS
TO
THEM...

...THEY
TRULY CAN
BECOME
AS
STRONG
AS THEY
MUST
BE!



YOU
WILL
GET
STRON-
GER



WH..WHOA
HE'S SUM-
MONING UNBEL-
IEVABLE
AMOUNTS
OF CHAKRA...
IS... IS THIS
REALLY...

AAAAAAAAA
HAAAAA!



UNH...?!

I SWEAR,
I'LL
PROTECT
ALL OF
YOU!!



NARUTO?!



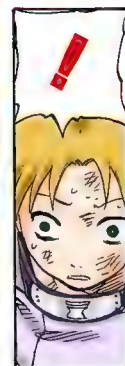
TAJU
KAGE
BUNSHIN
NO
JUTSU!
ART
OF
THE
SHADOW
DOPPEL-
GANGERS!!

WE NOW
BRING YOU
NARUTO'S
WHIRLING
SWIRLING
NINJA
HANDBOOK!!



SORRY
FOR THE
WAIT,
FOLKS!!

HE'S
GOOD!



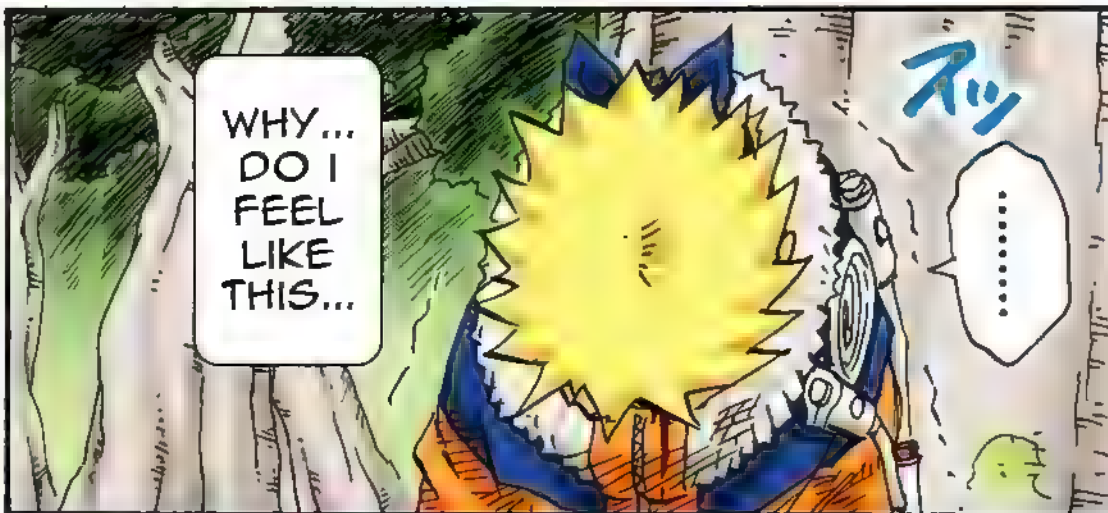


SAND
SHUR-
IKEN!!

...ARGH...



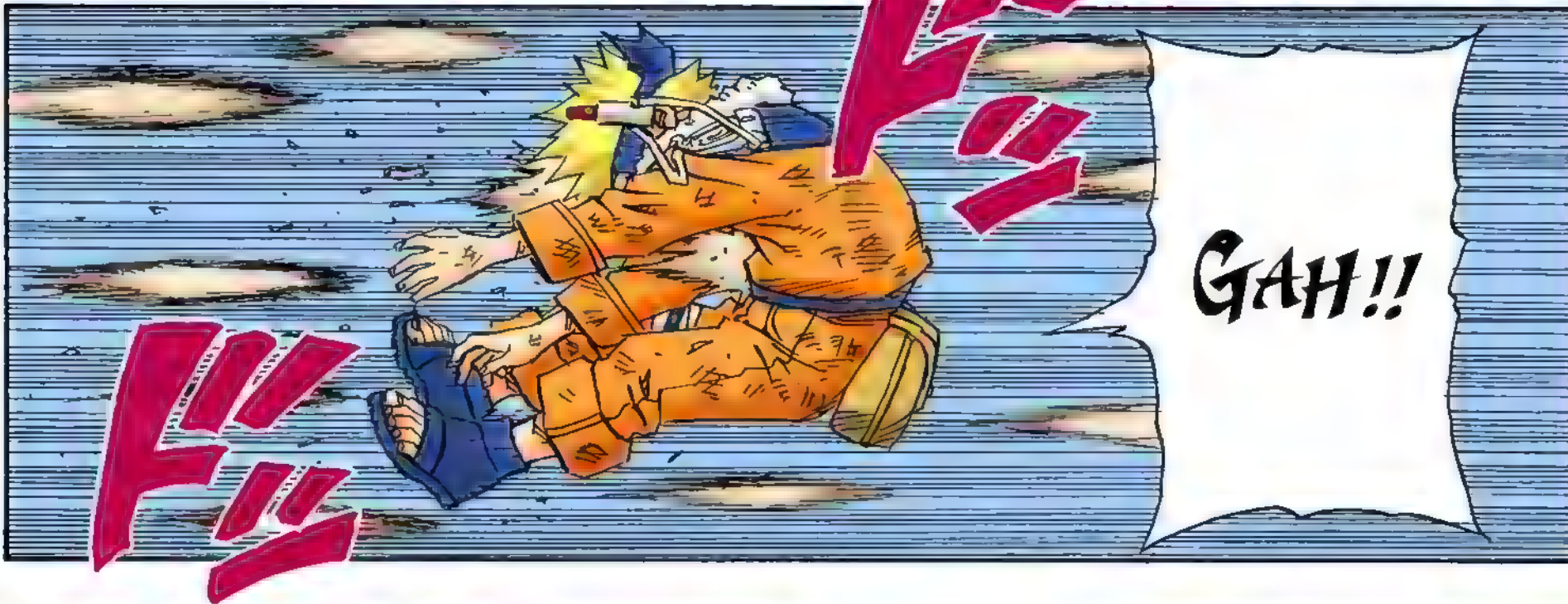
.....



WHY...
DO I
FEEL
LIKE
THIS...

スッ

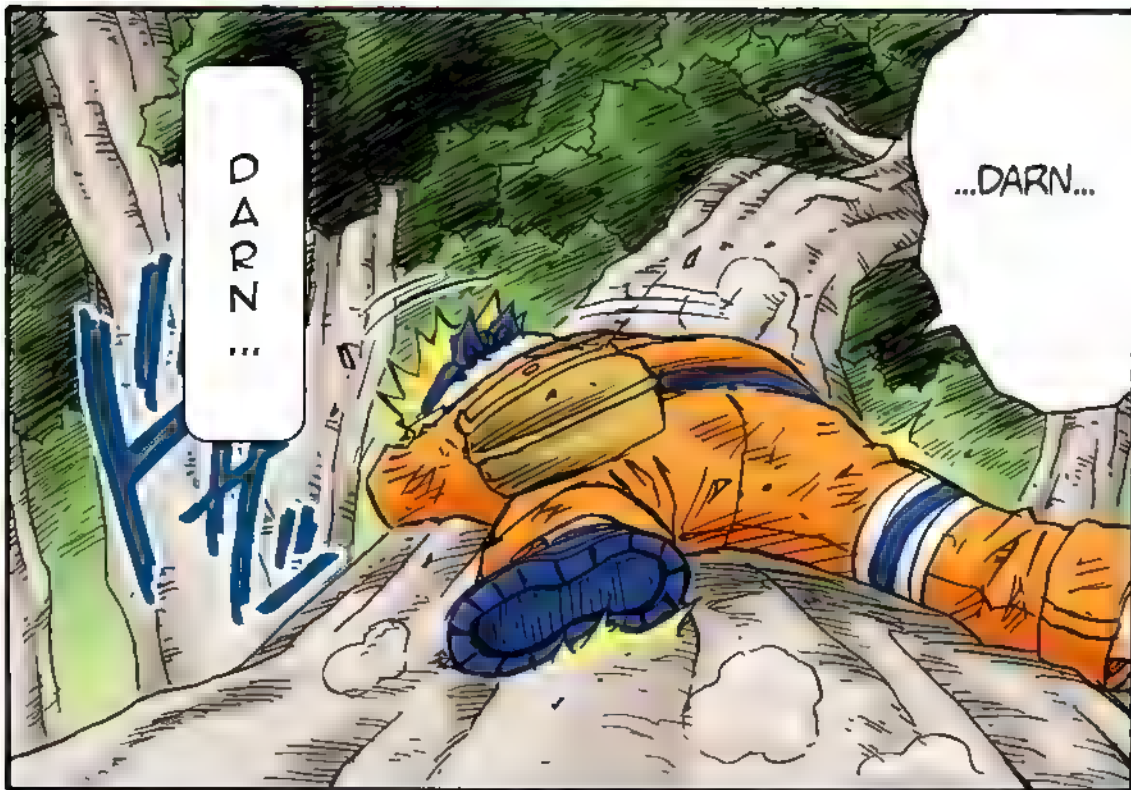
.....



フッ

フッ

GAH!!

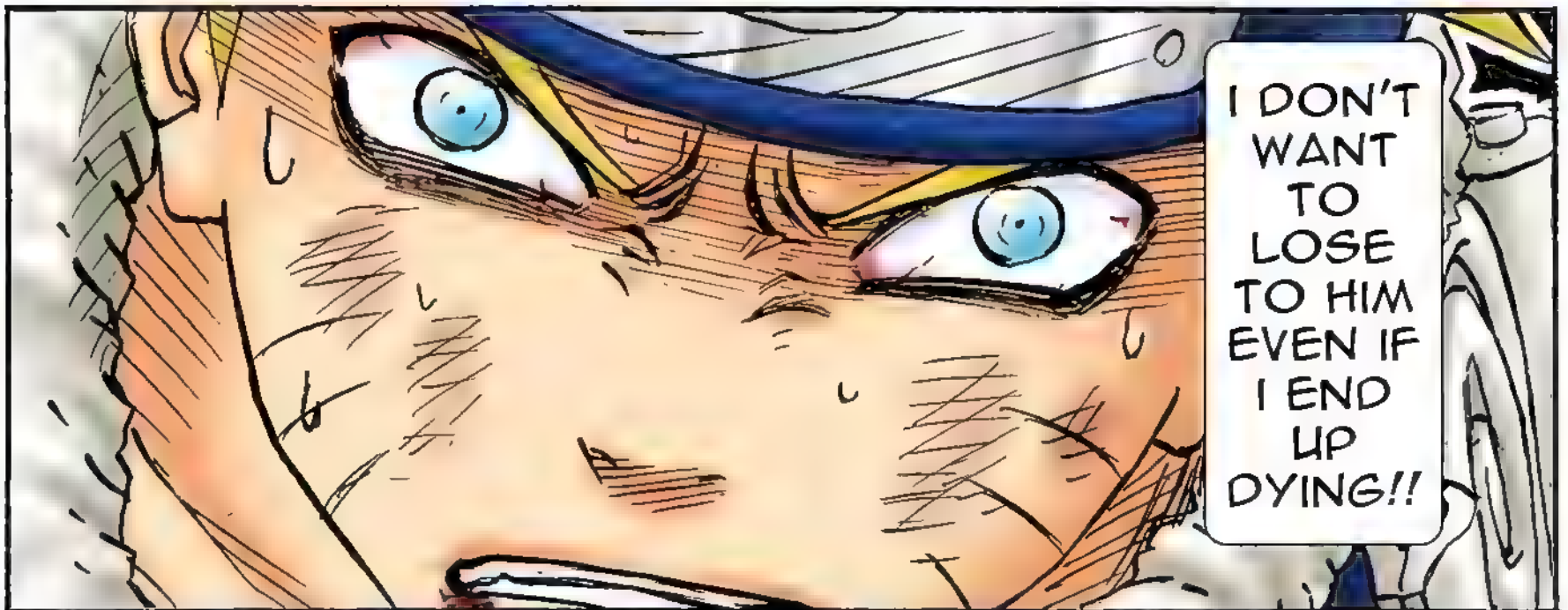
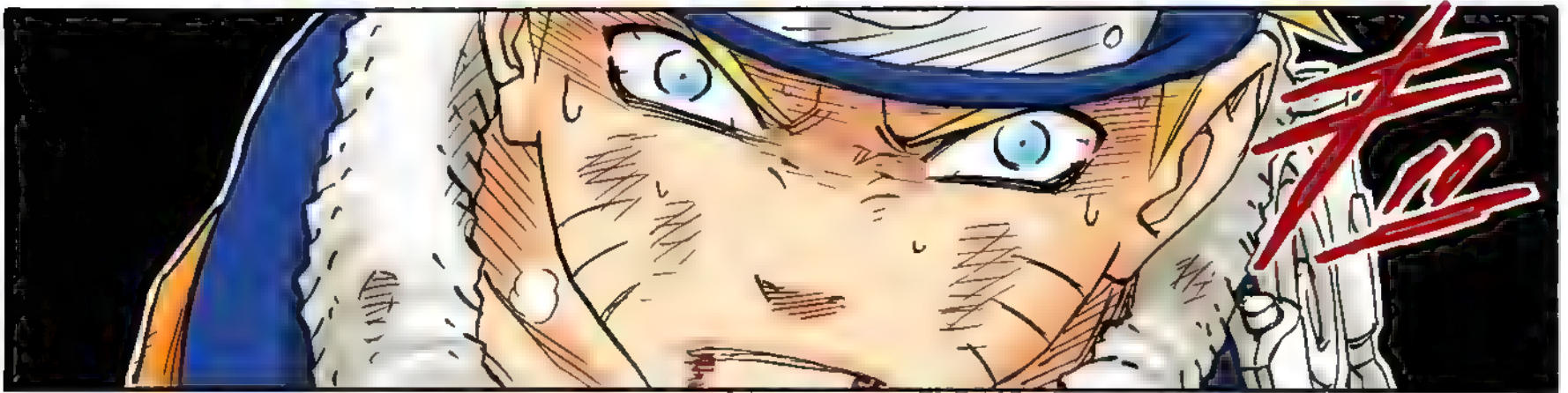
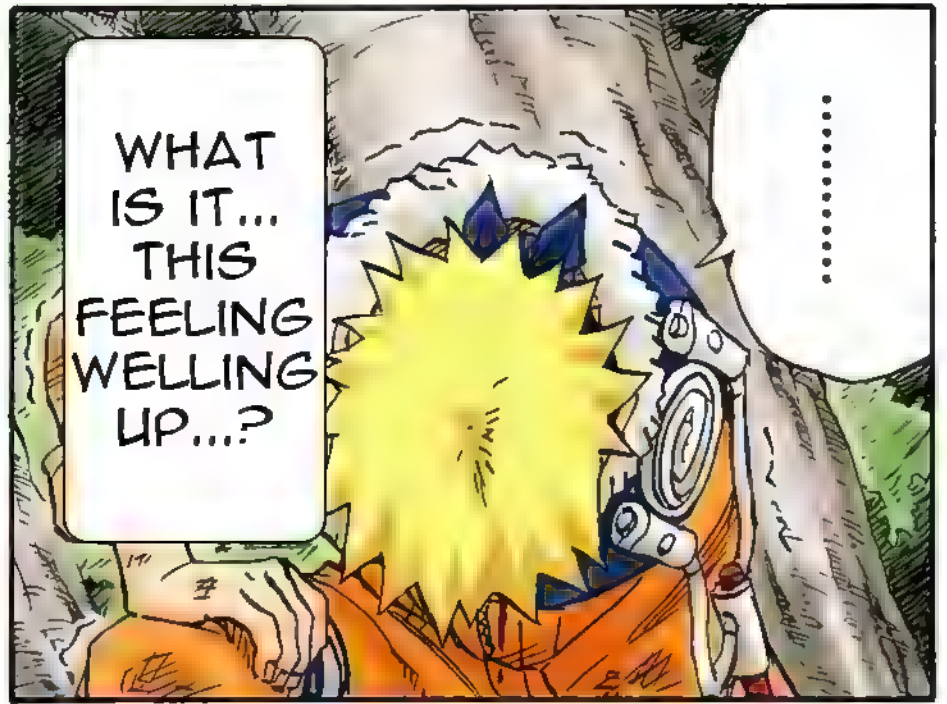
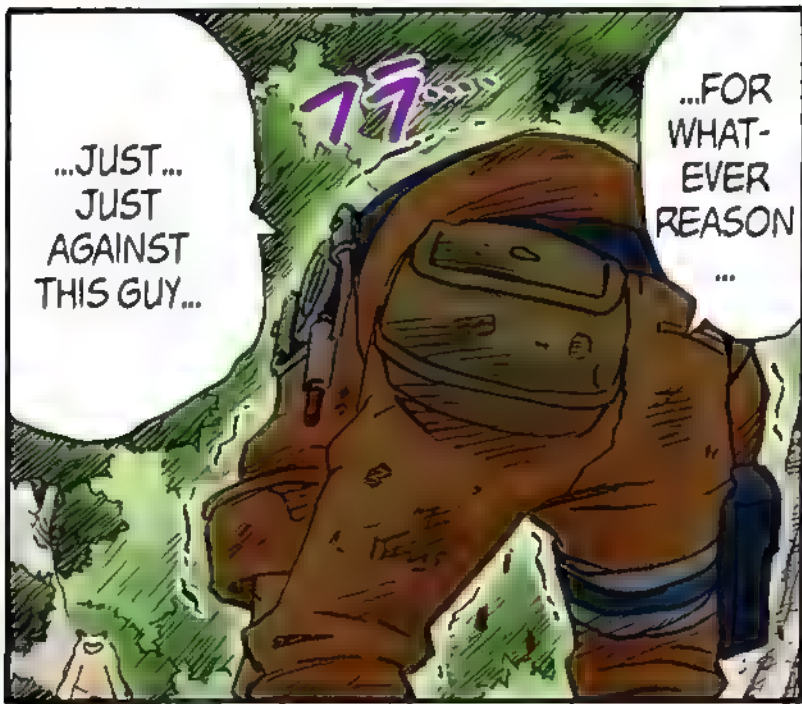
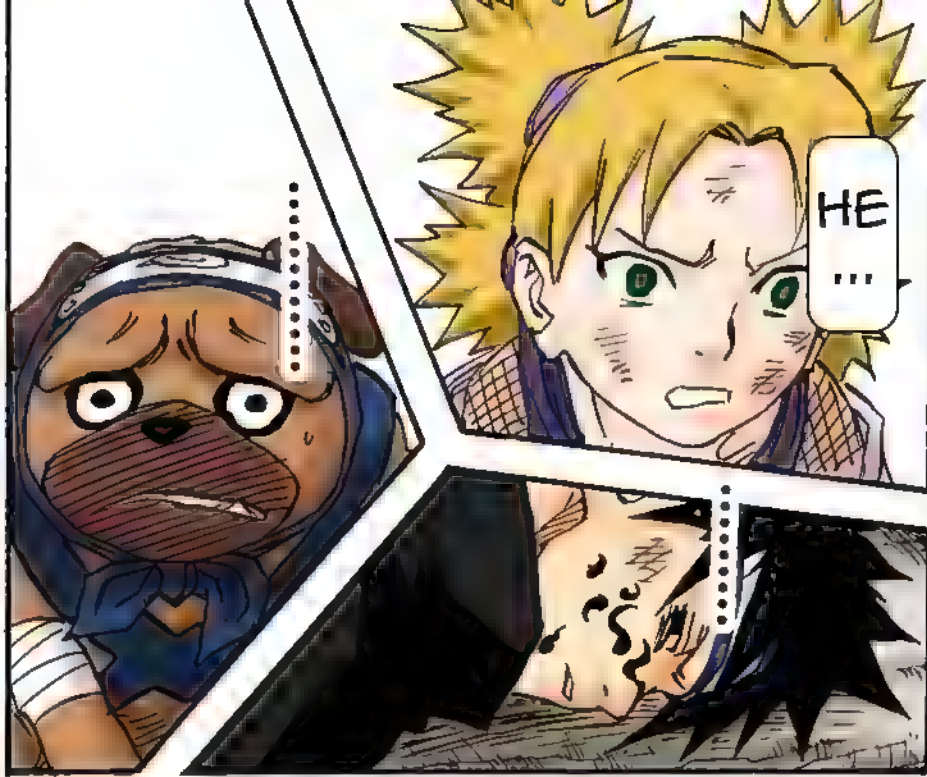


DARN

...DARN...



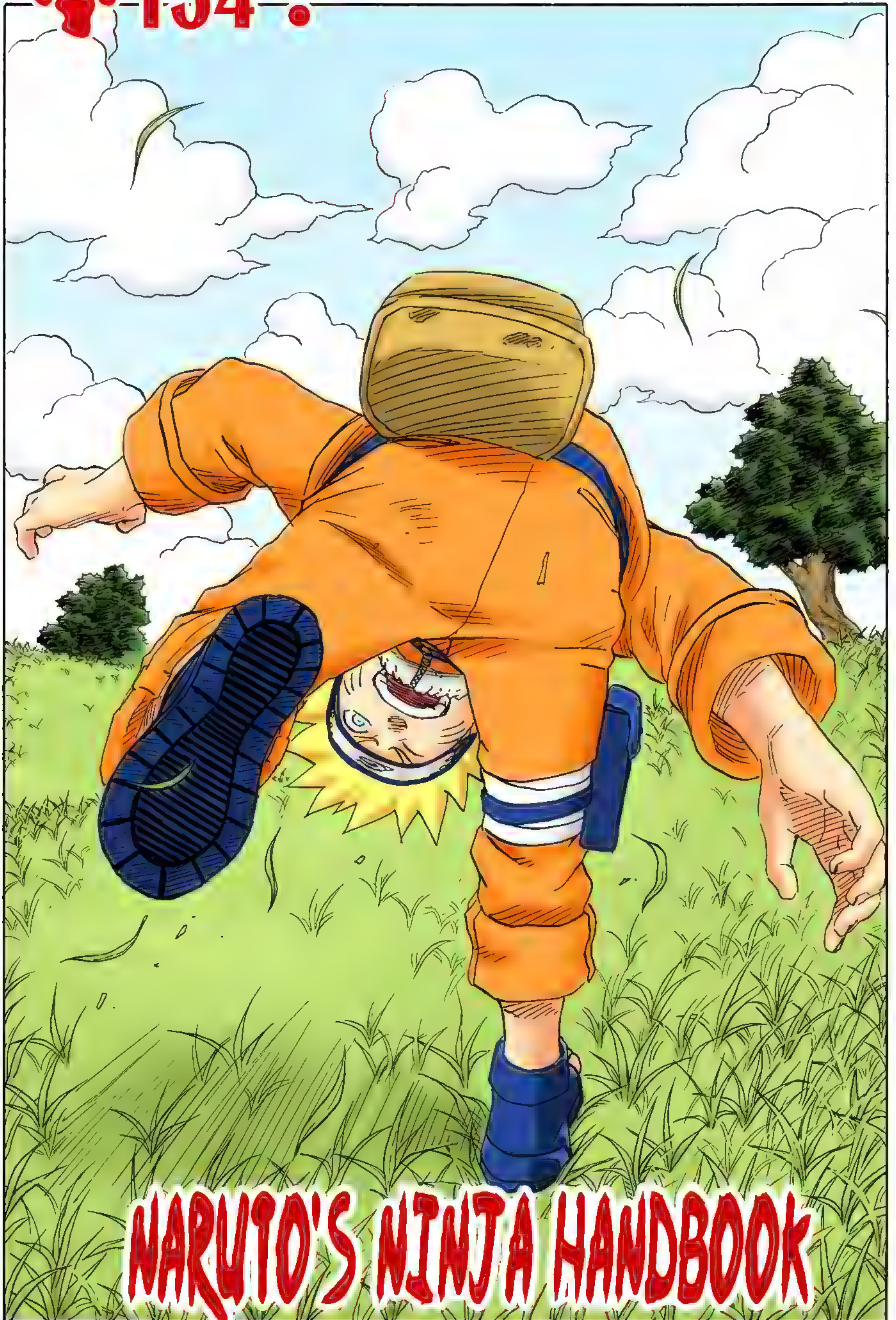
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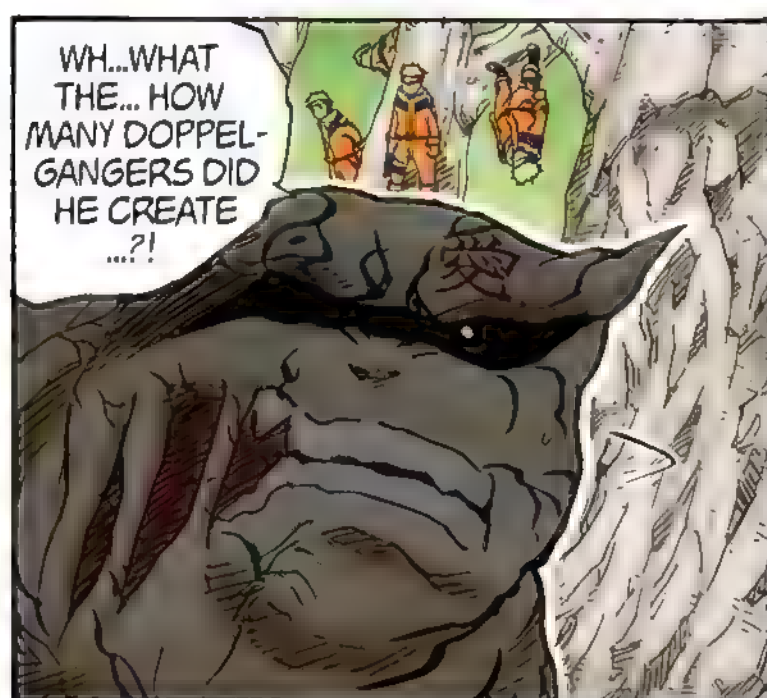
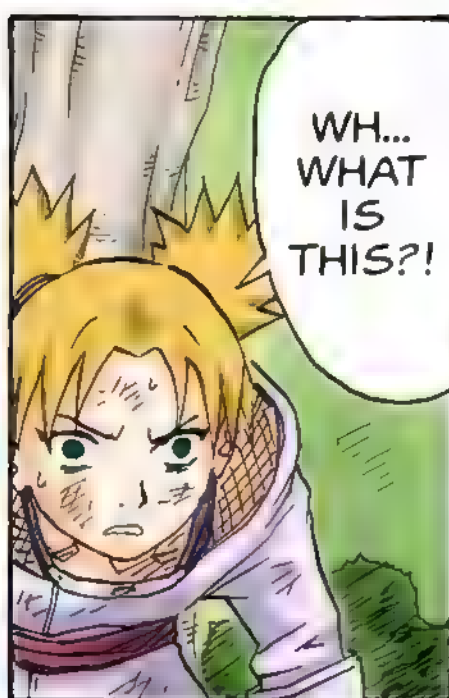
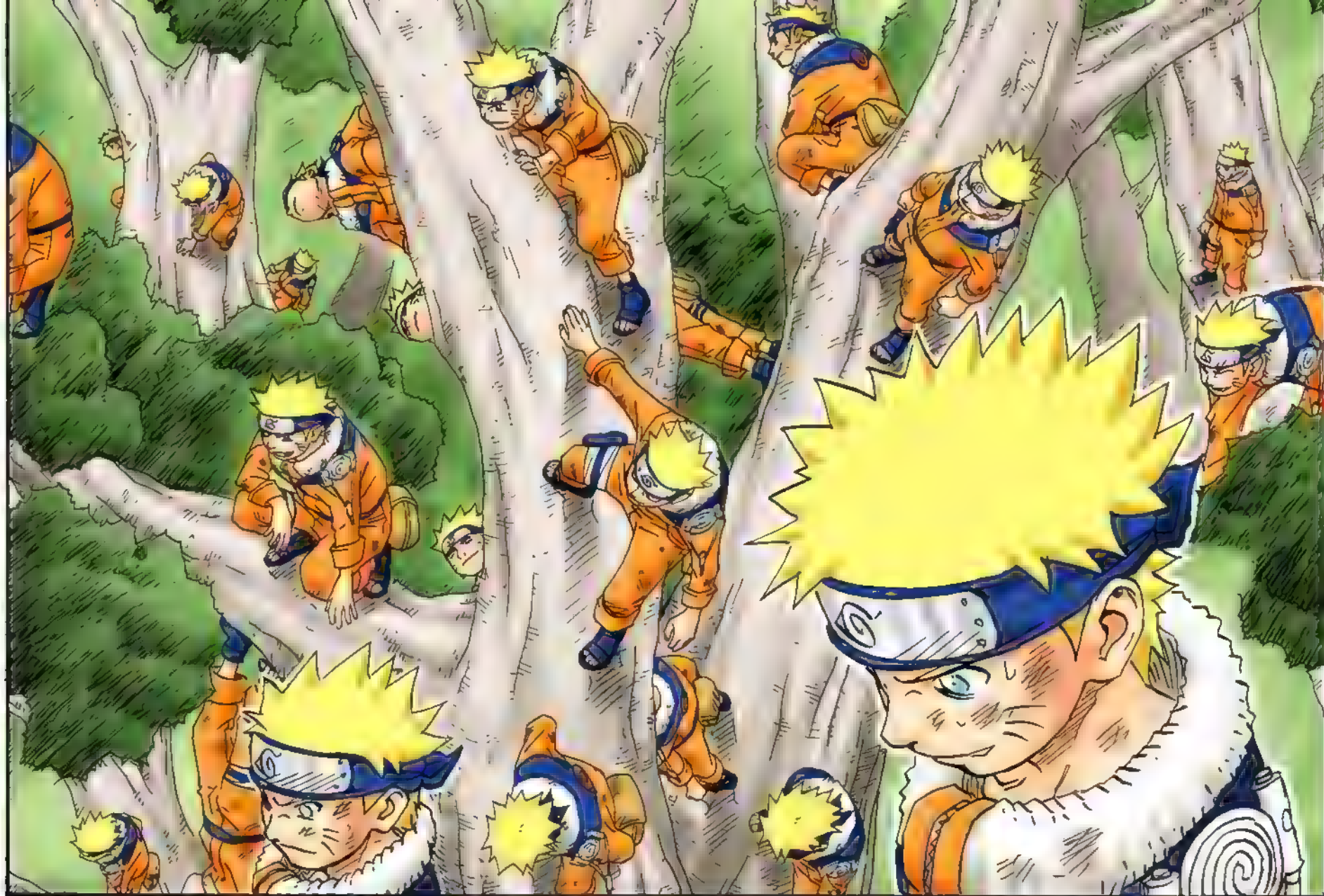
ナンバー

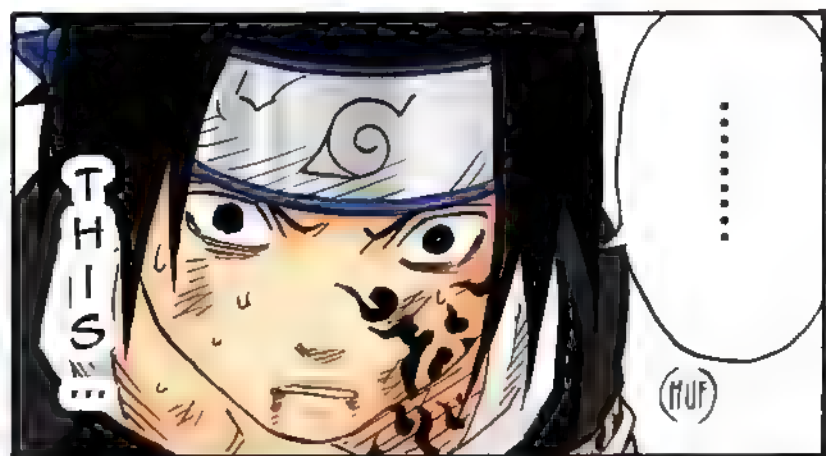


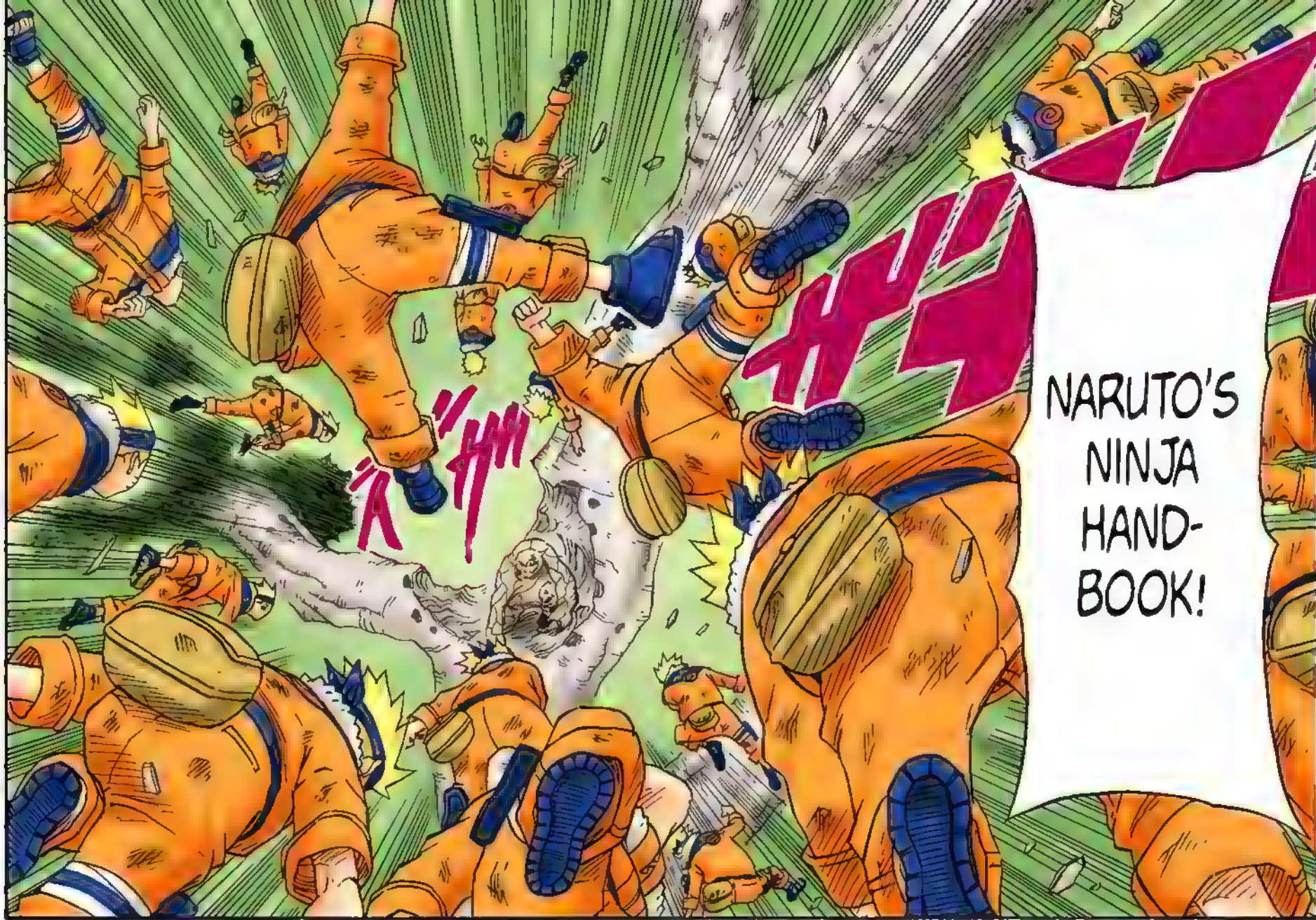
134 :



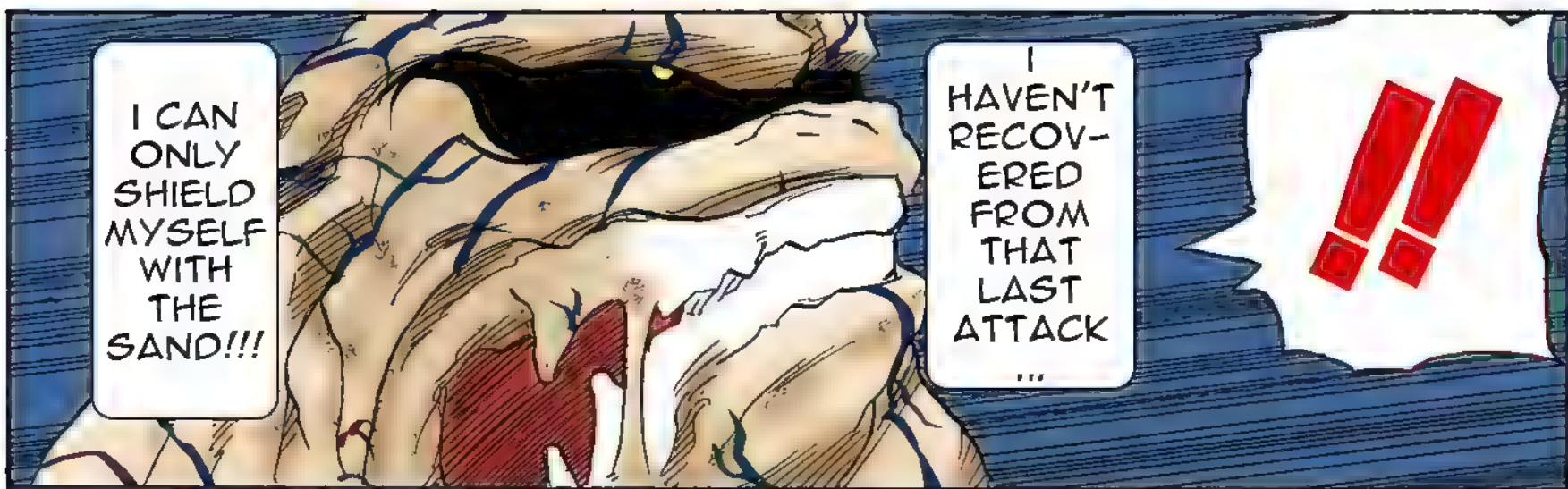
NARUTO'S NINJA HANDBOOK







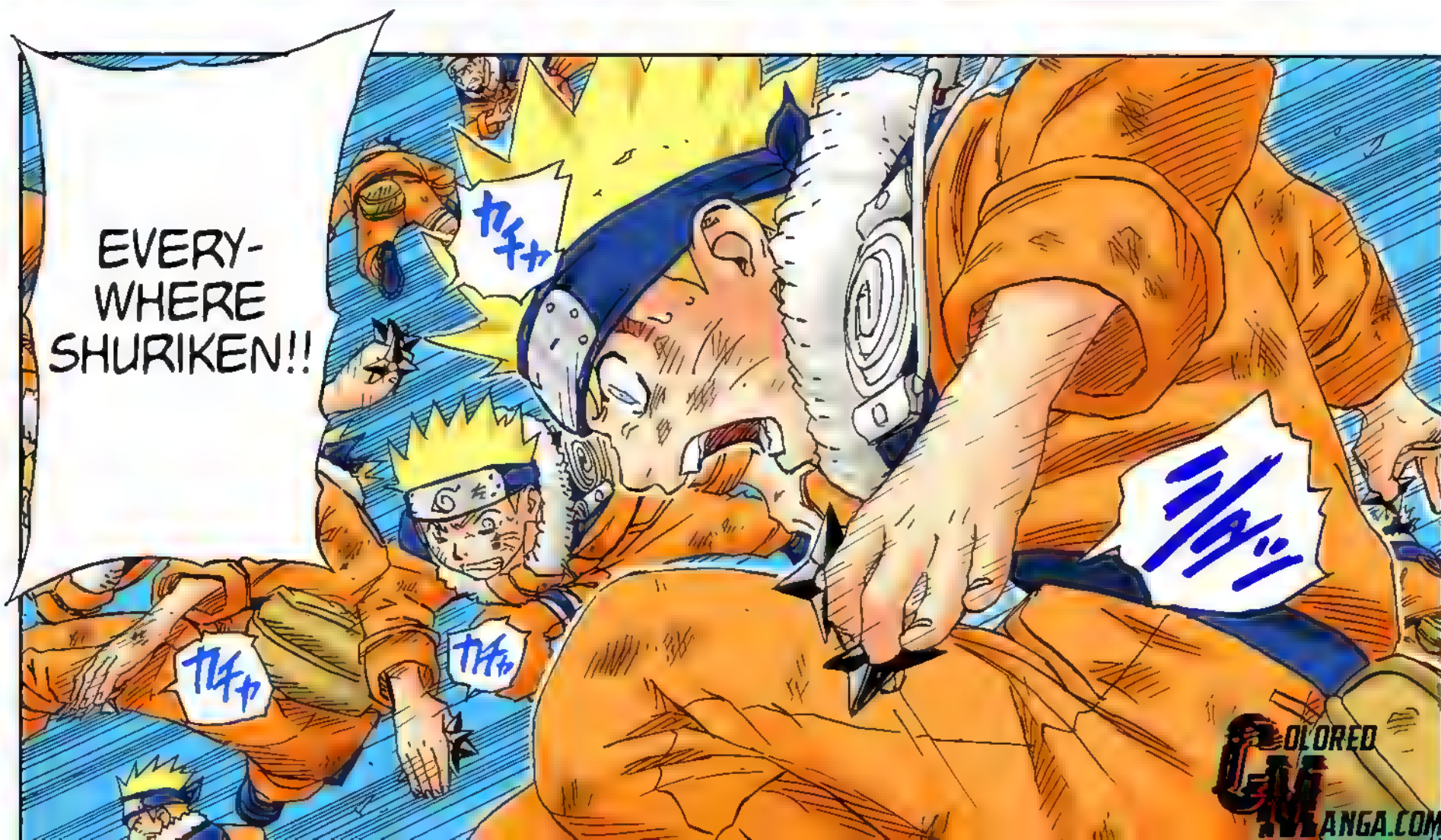
NARUTO'S
NINJA
HAND-
BOOK!



I CAN
ONLY
SHIELD
MYSELF
WITH
THE
SAND!!!

I
HAVEN'T
RECOV-
ERED
FROM
THAT
LAST
ATTACK
...

!!



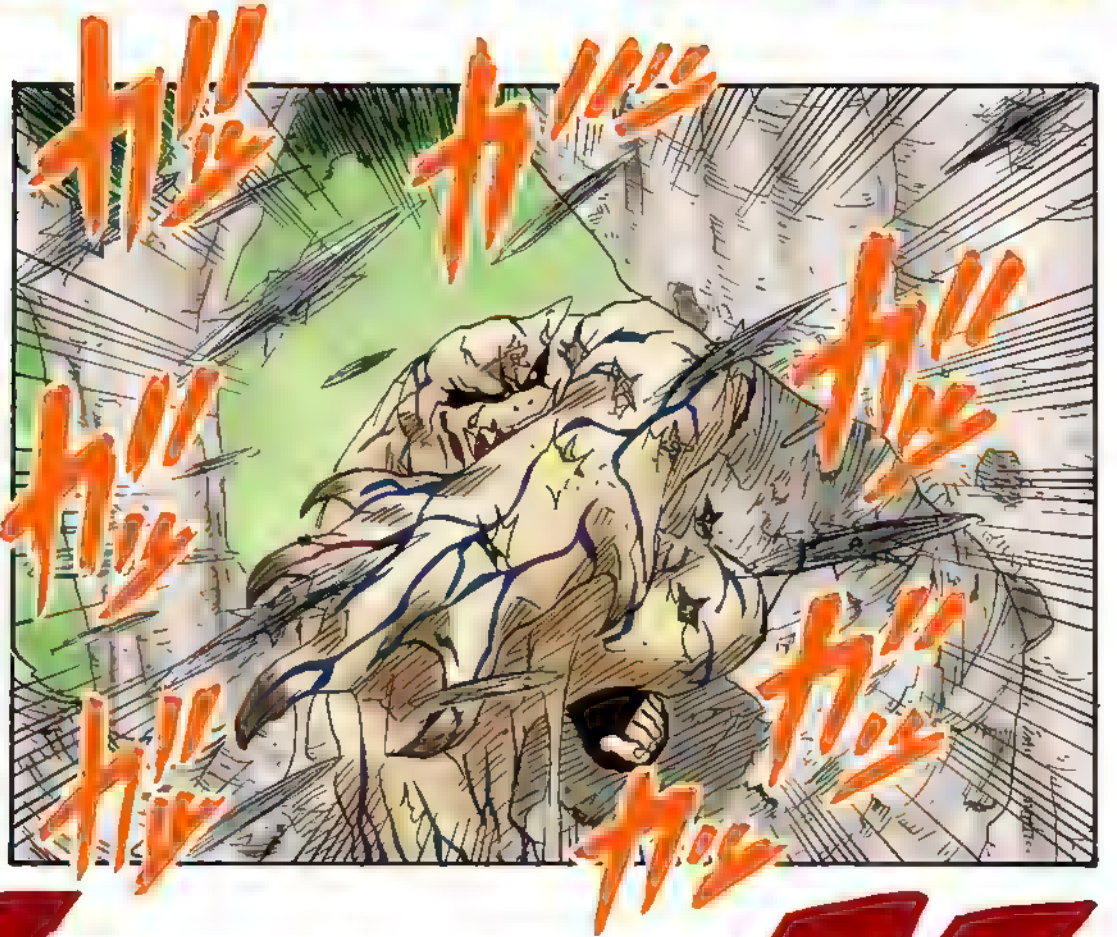
EVERY-
WHERE
SHURIKEN!!

カチカチ

カチカチ

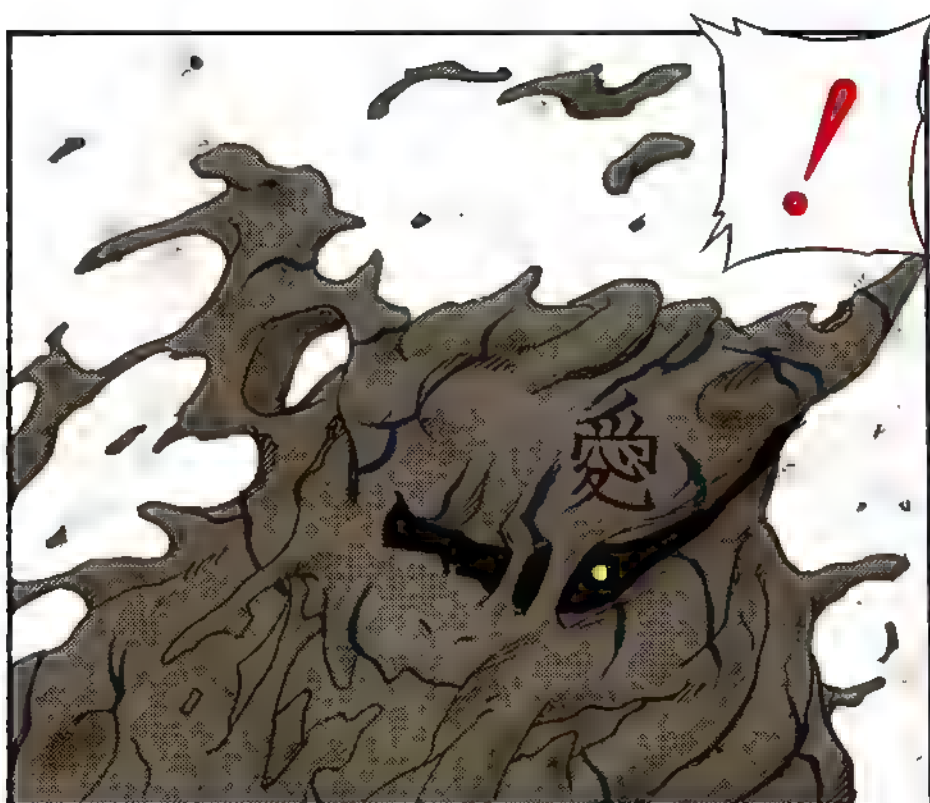
カチカチ

カチカチ

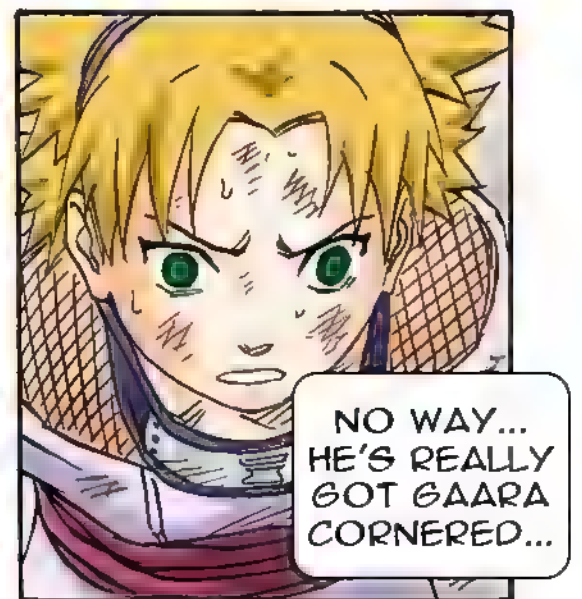
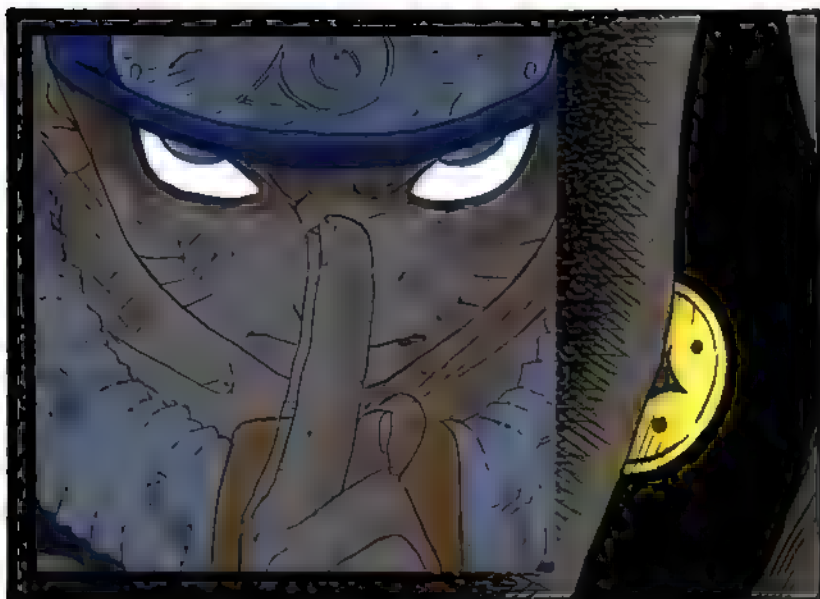
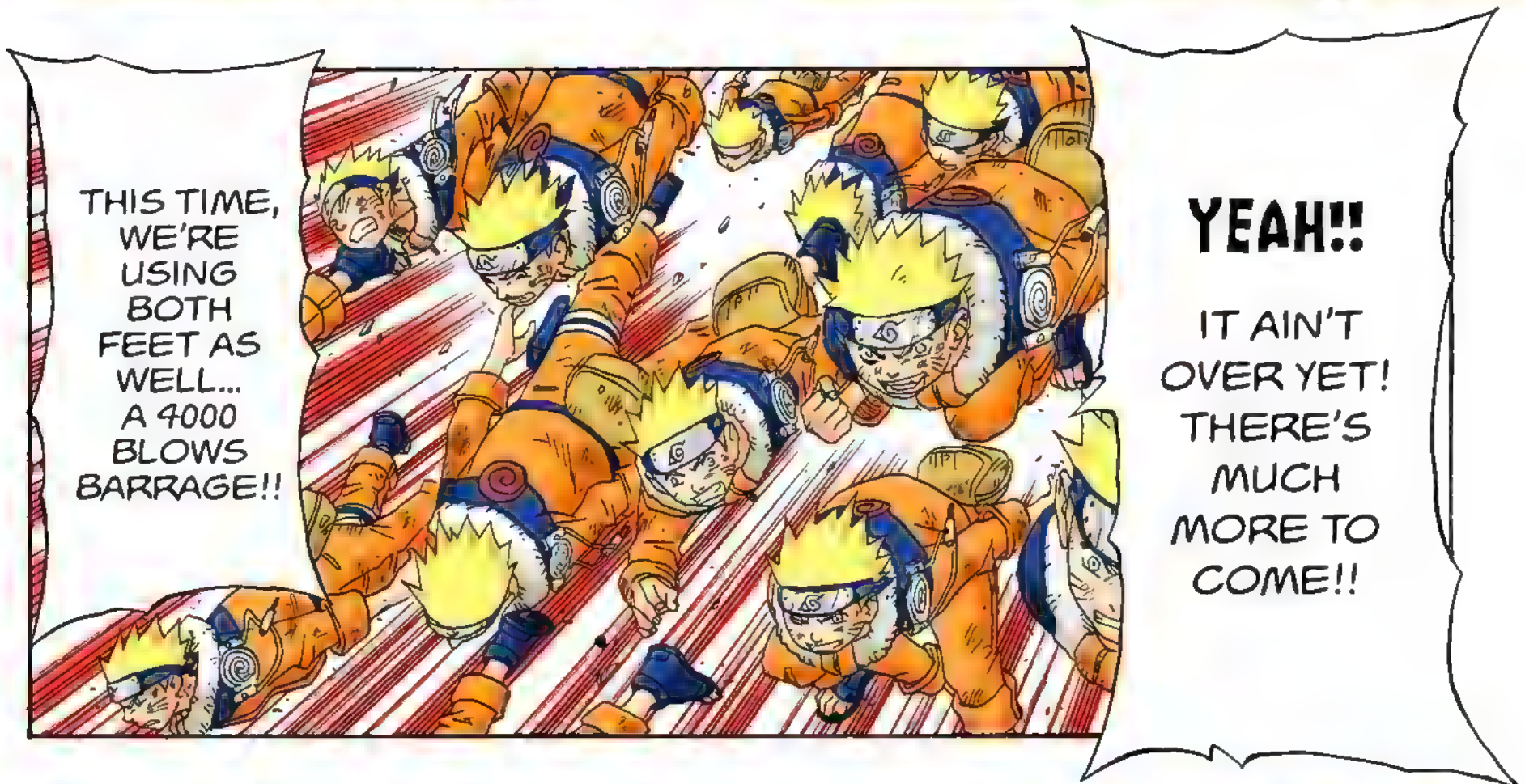
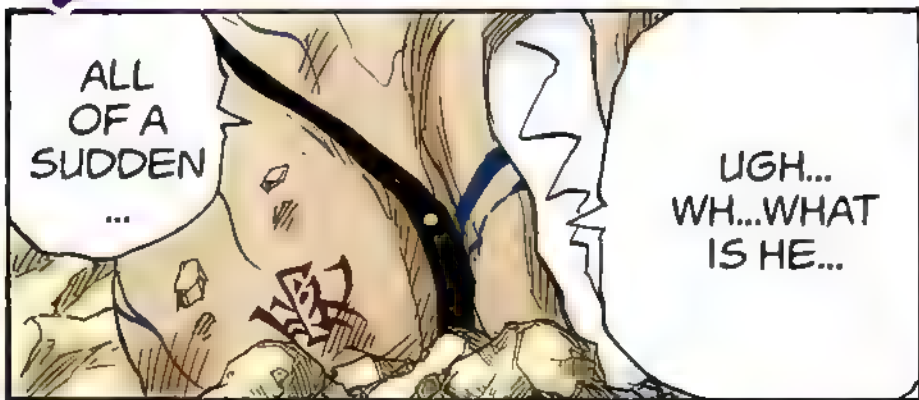
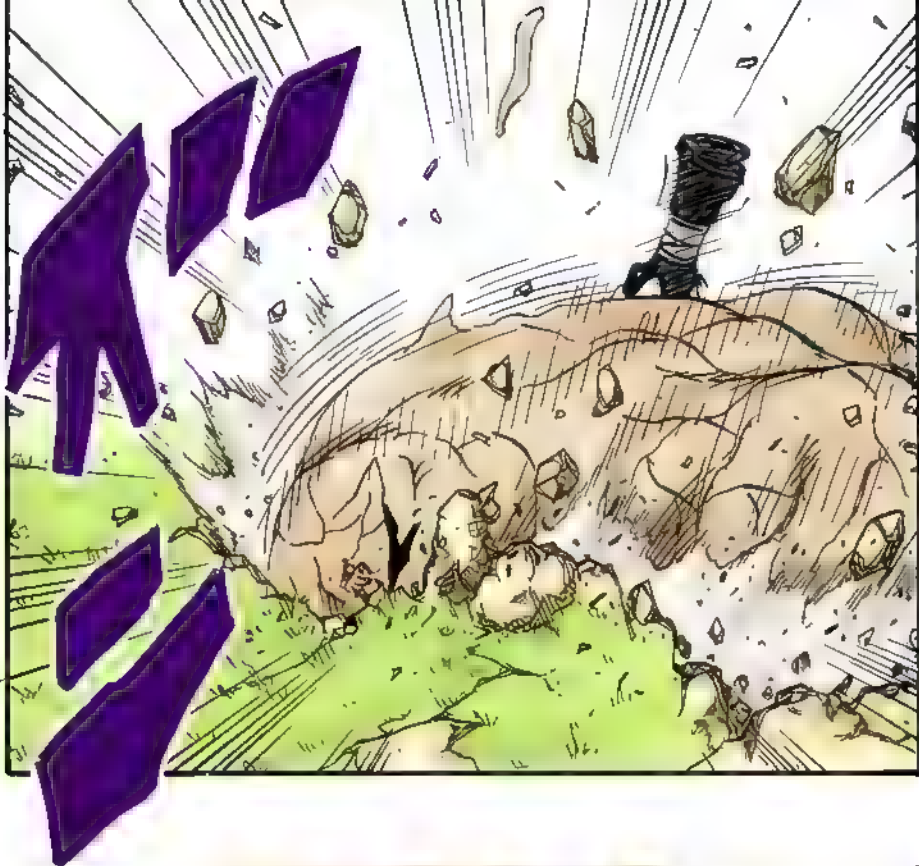


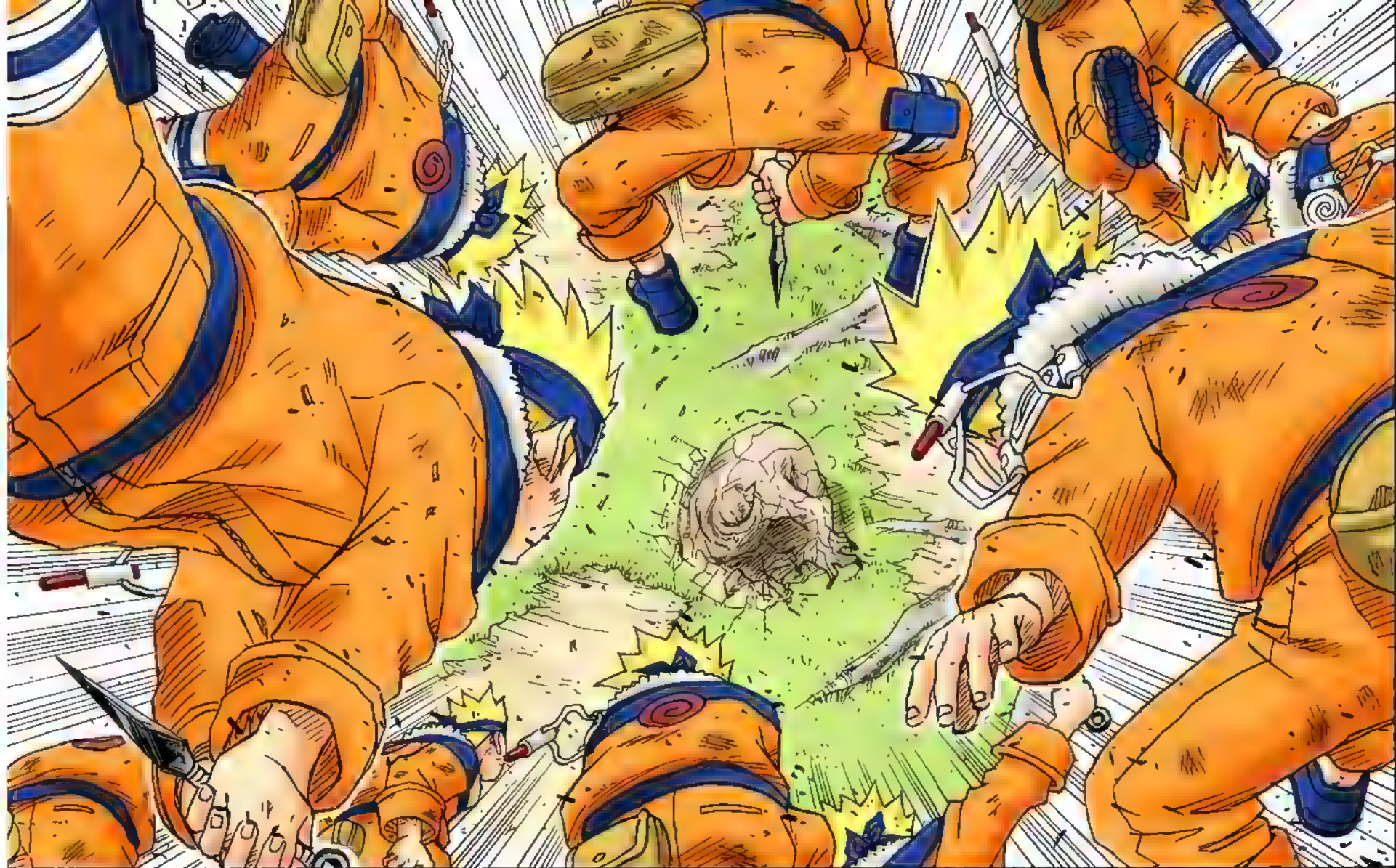
NARUTO'S
2000
BLOWS...





...
BARRAGE
!!





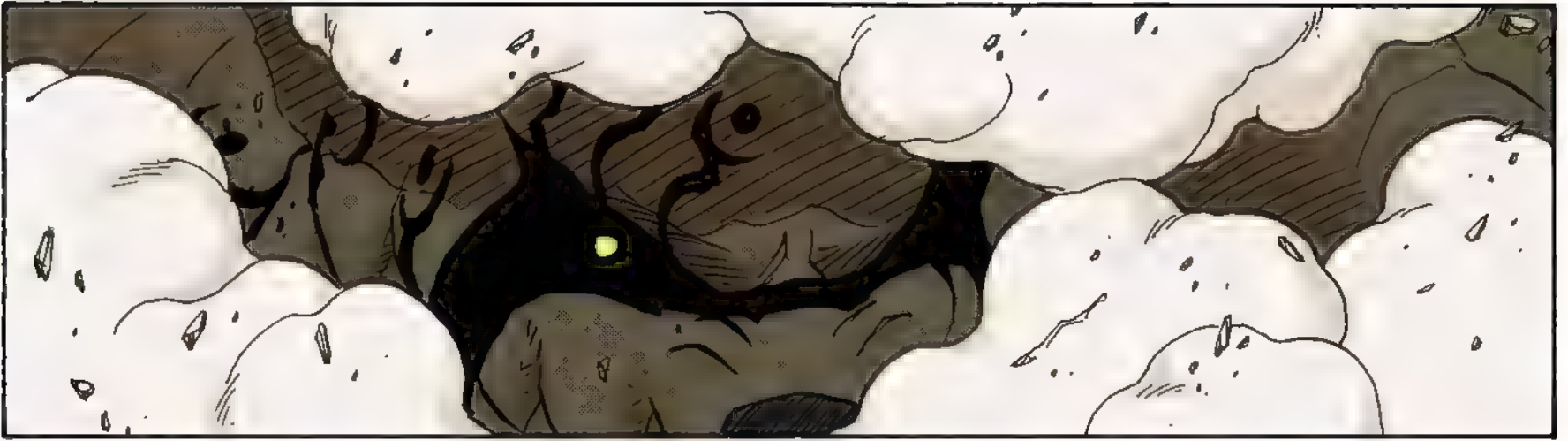
O...OH NO,
DON'T TELL
ME...
IT'S FINALLY
HAPPENING?!

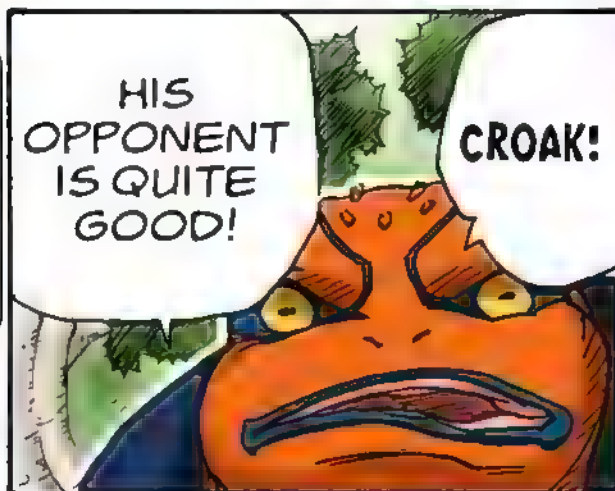
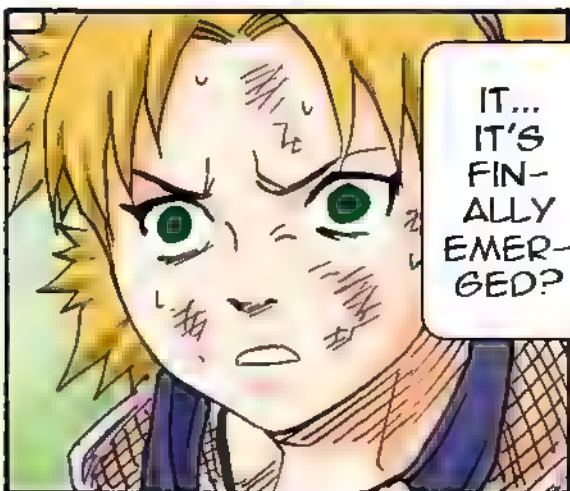
!!KAOOOOOR!!

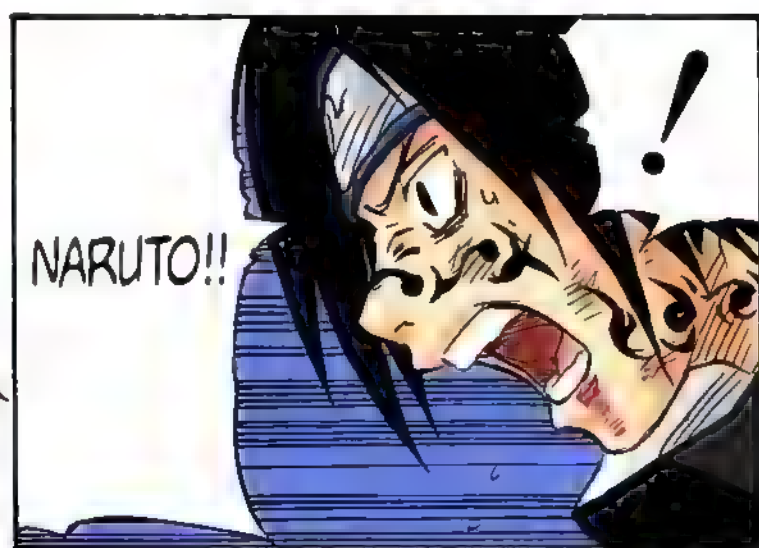
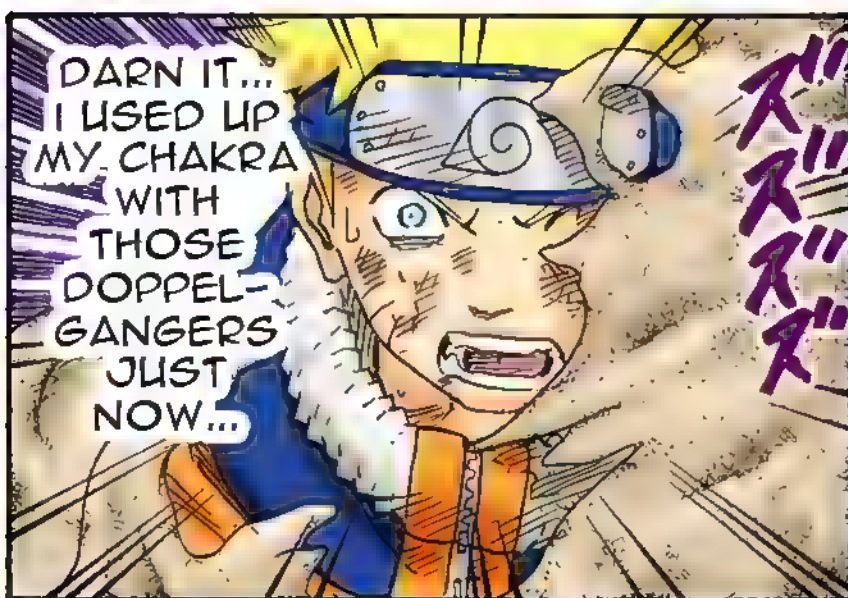


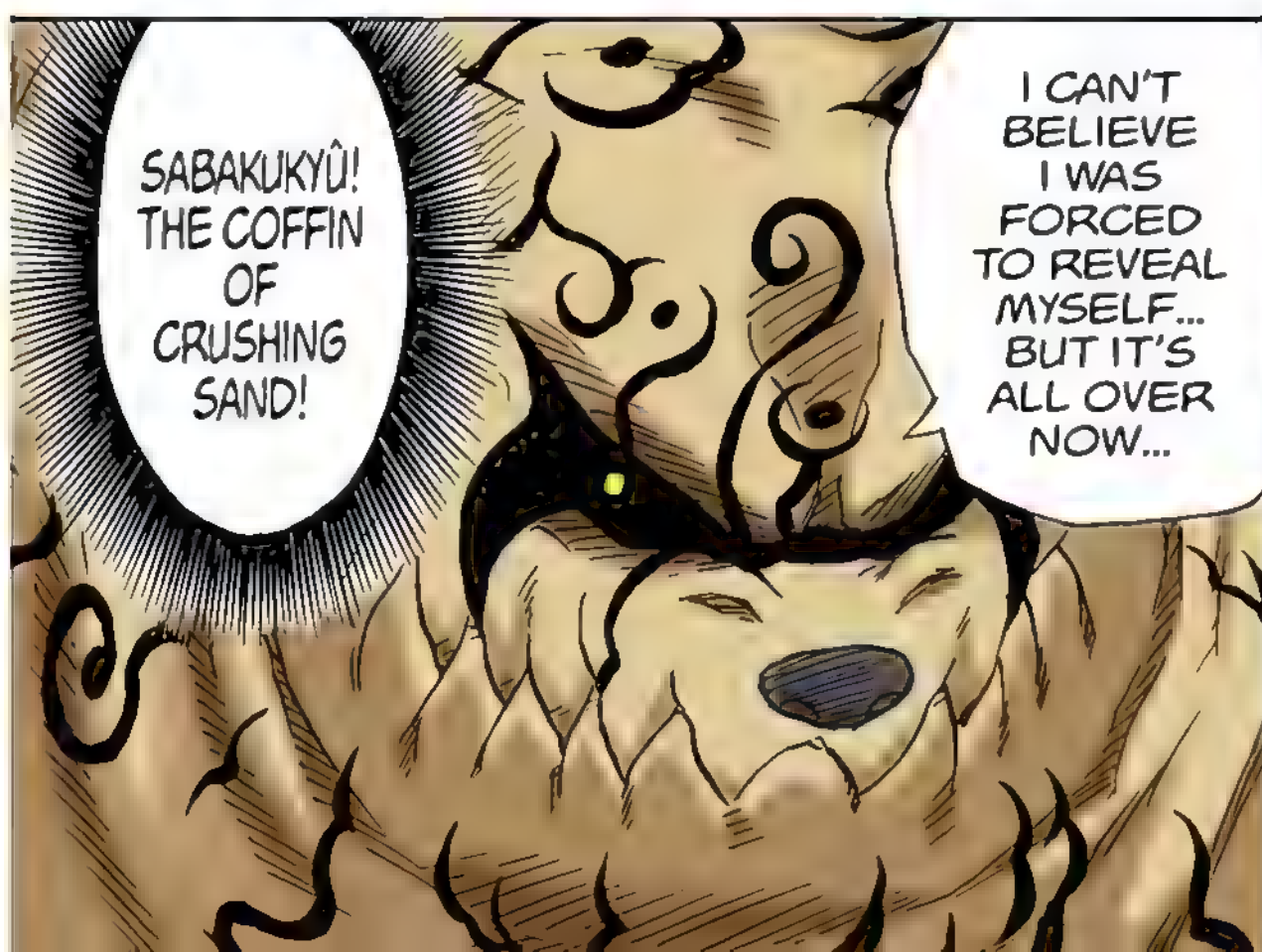
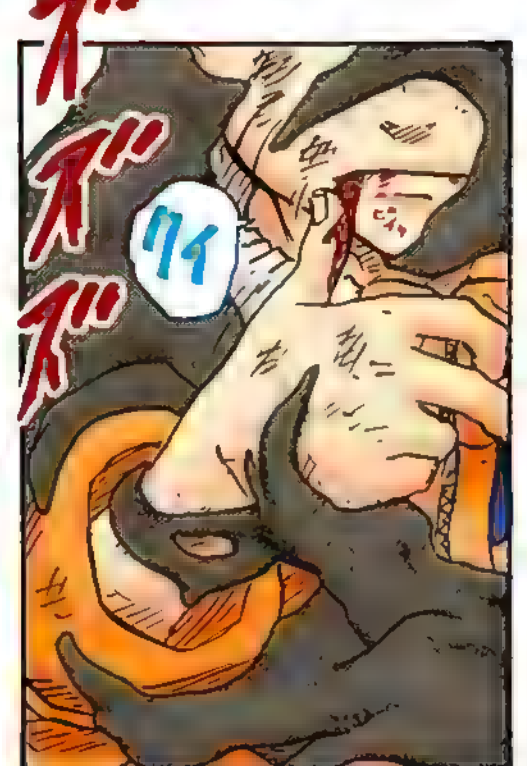
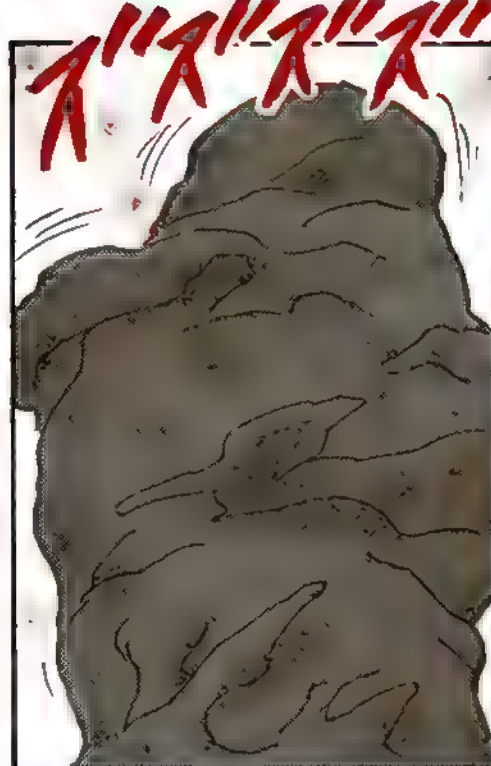
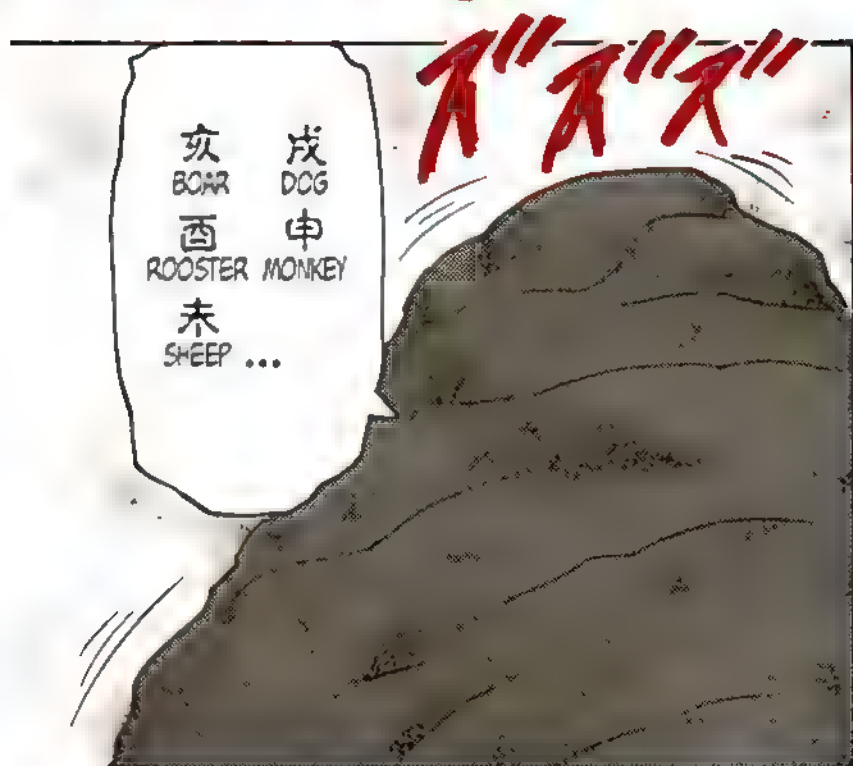
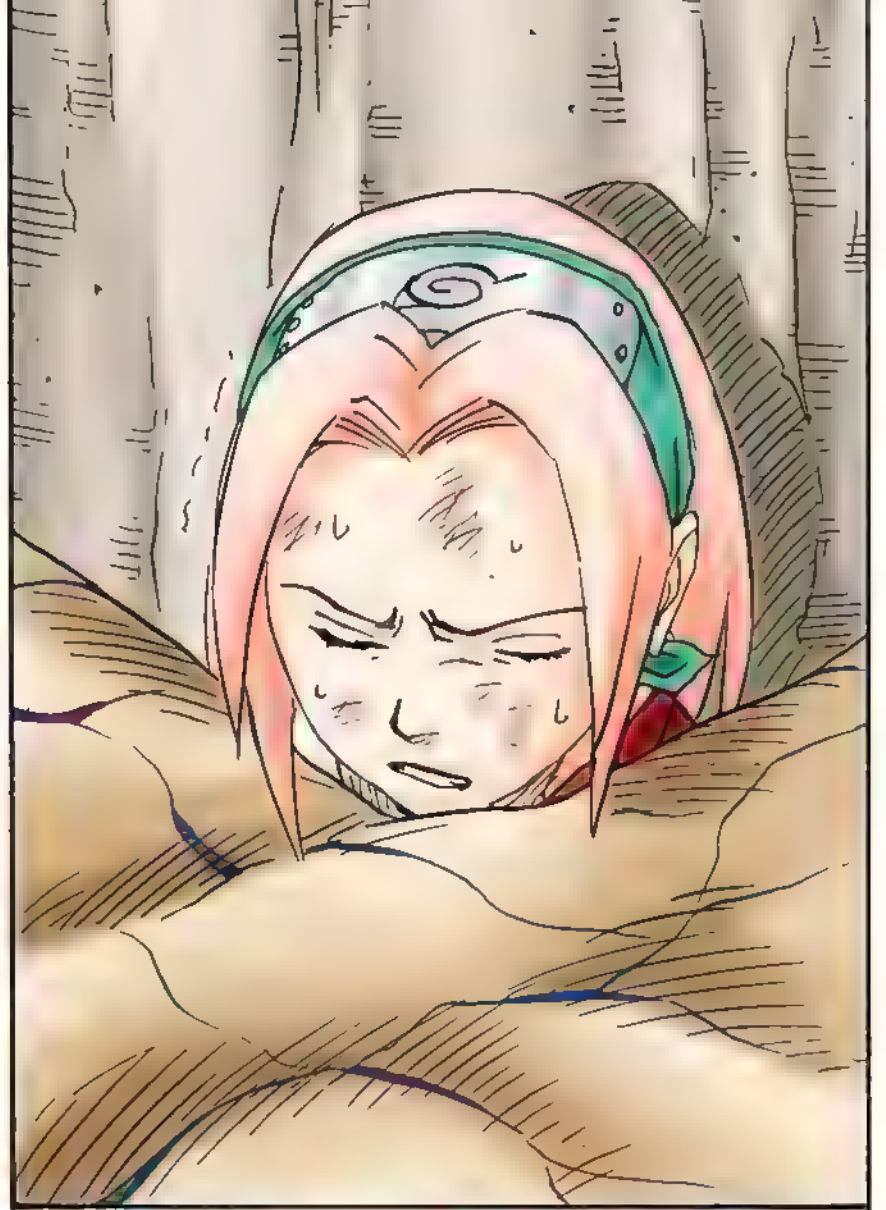
I WILL
NOT
LOSE
TO
SOME-
ONE
LIKE
YOU!

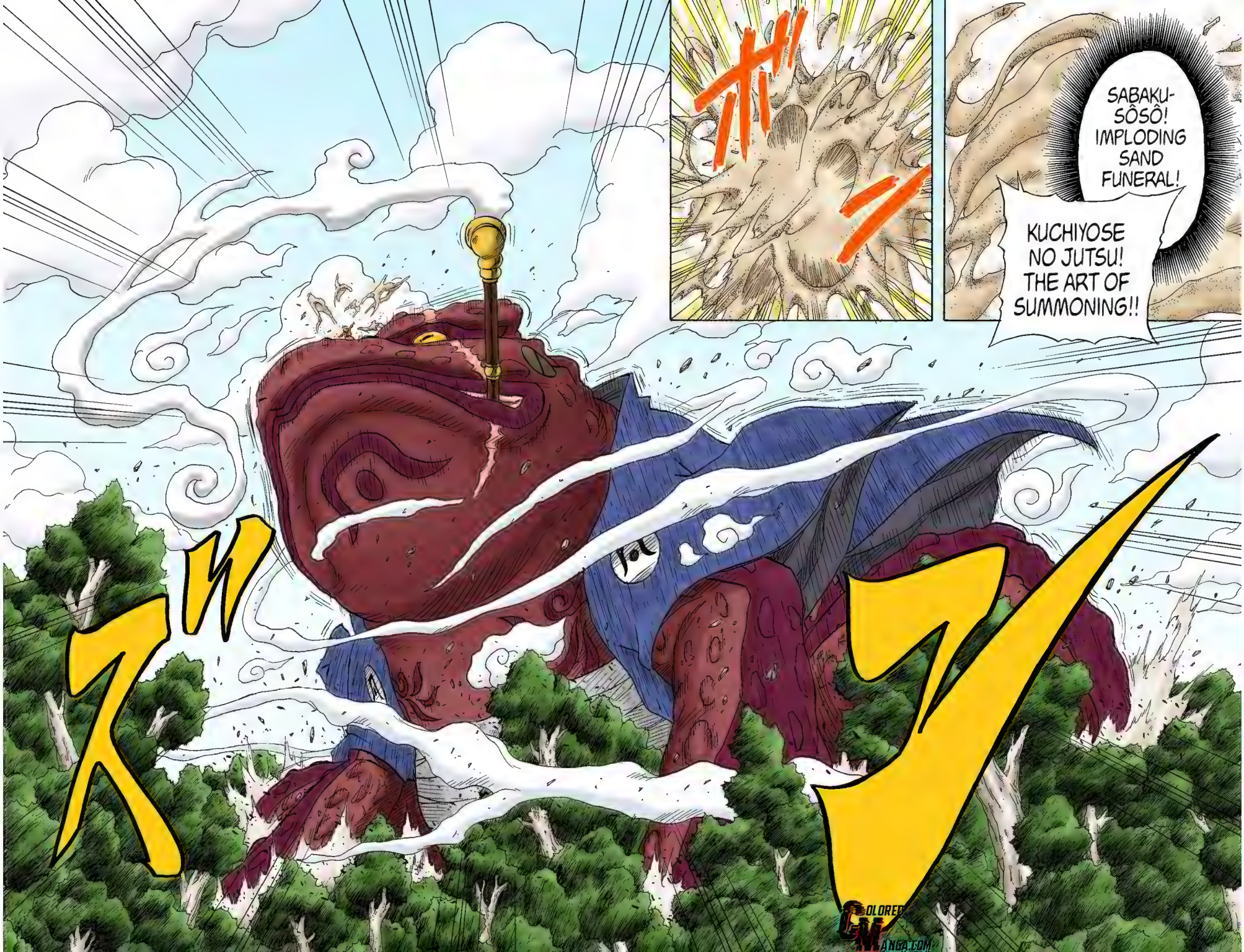






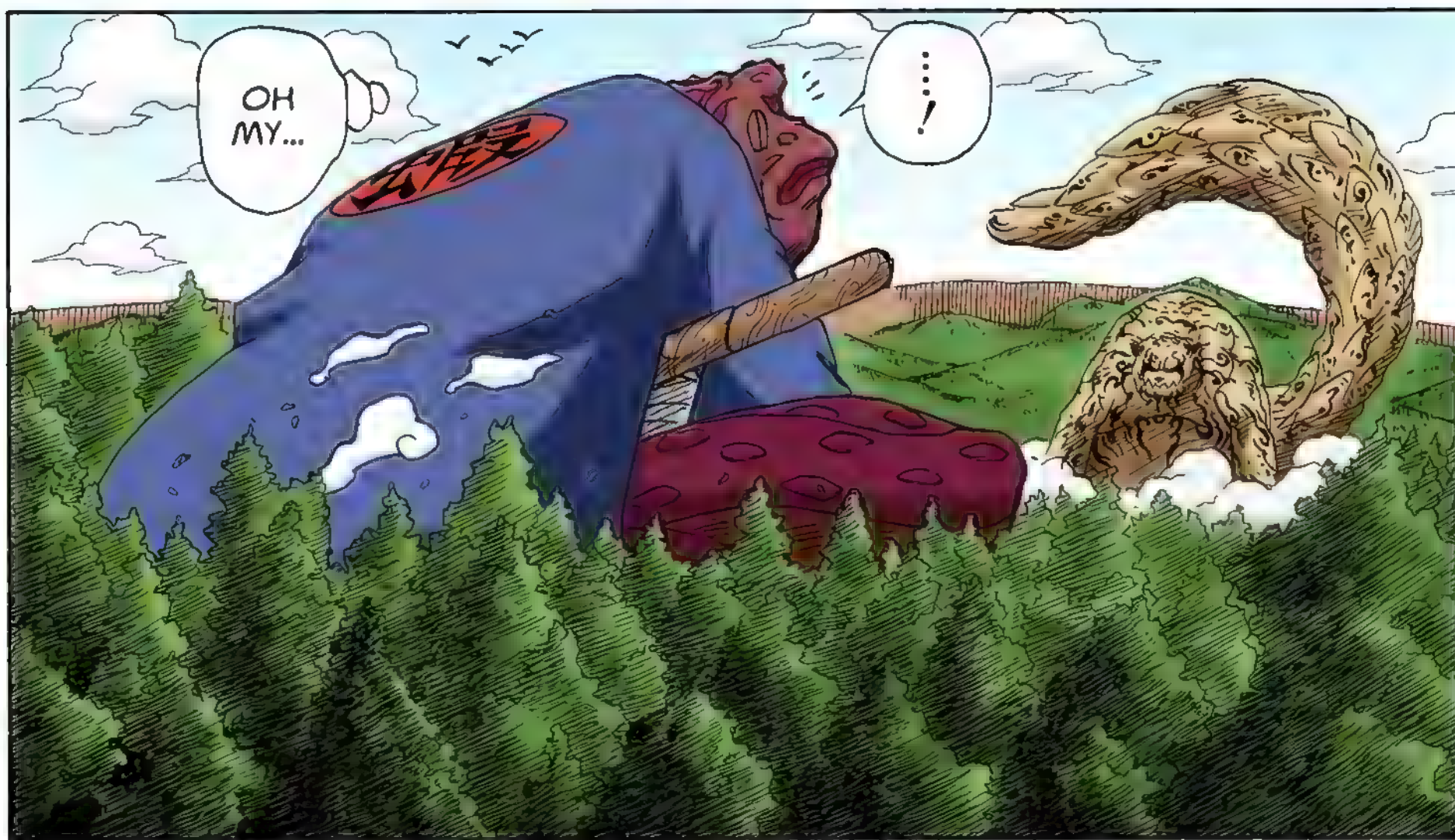
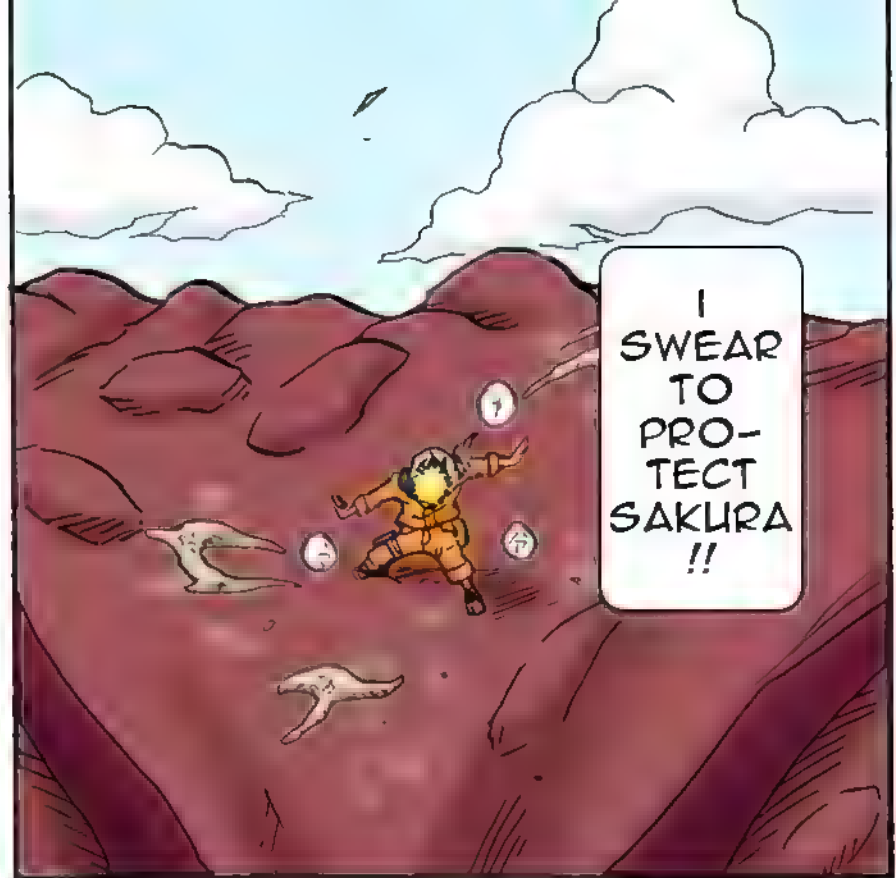


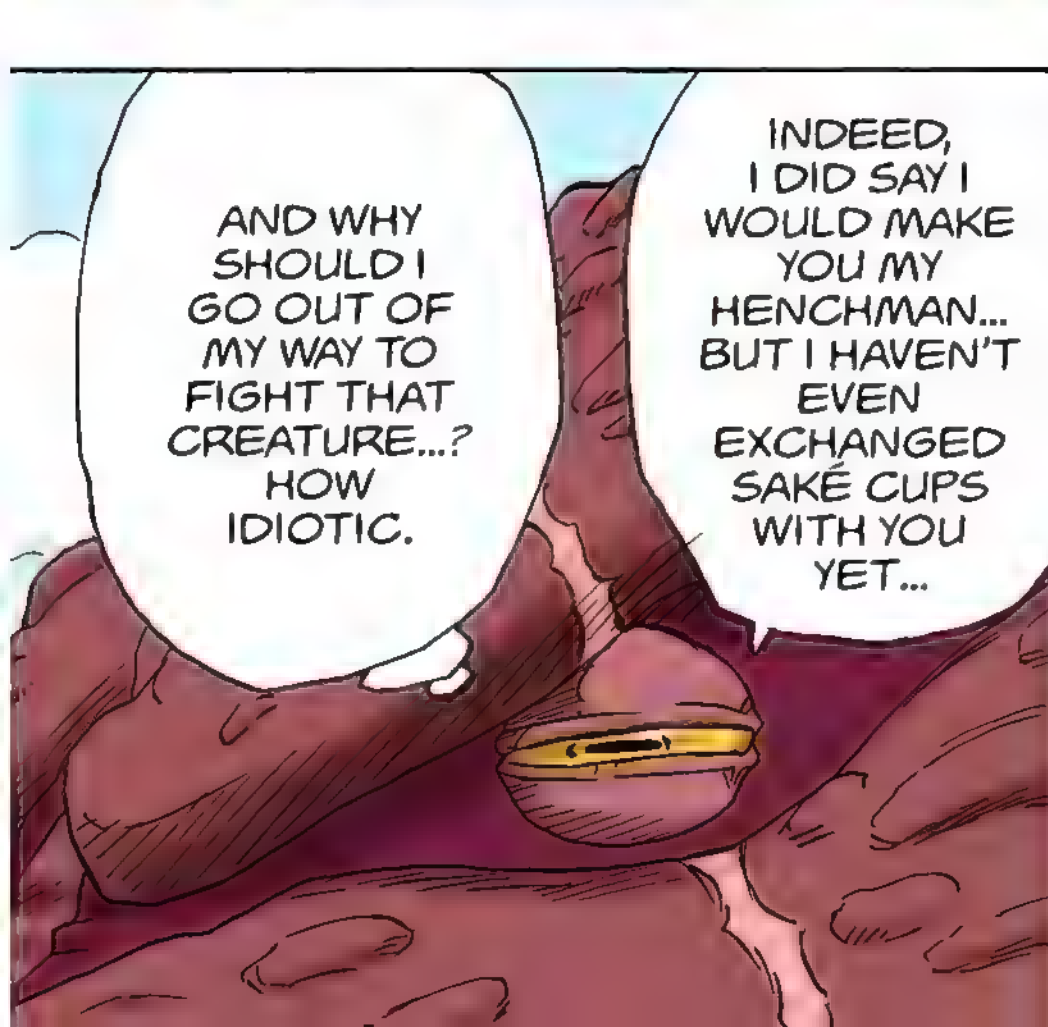
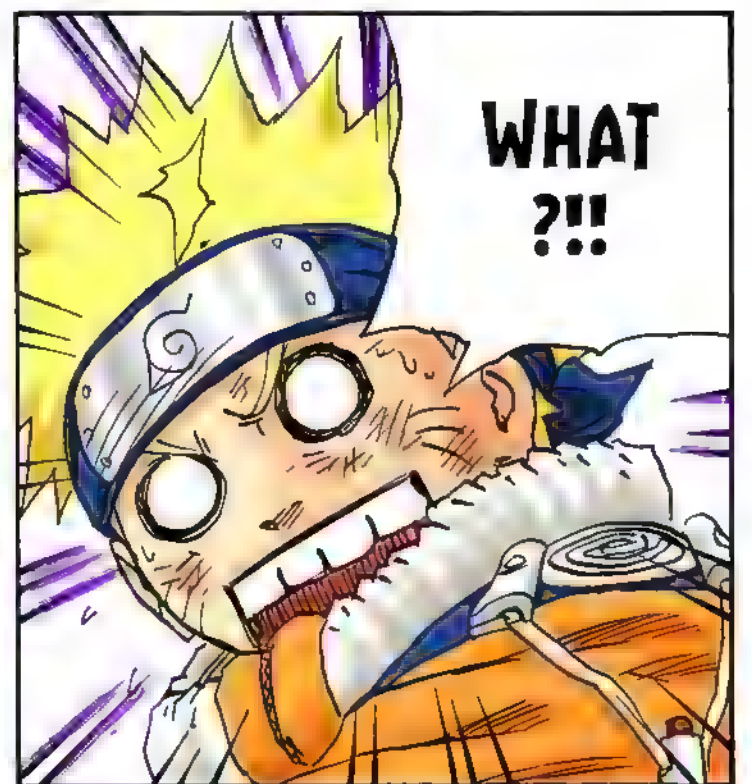
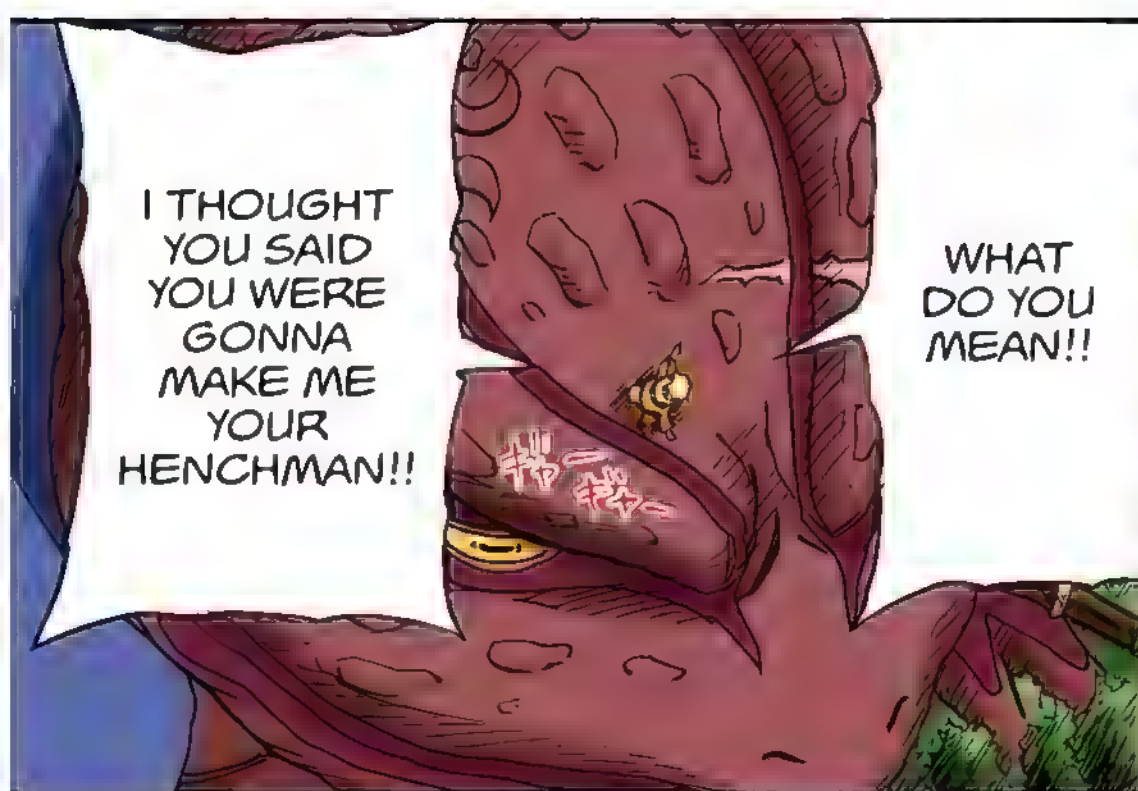
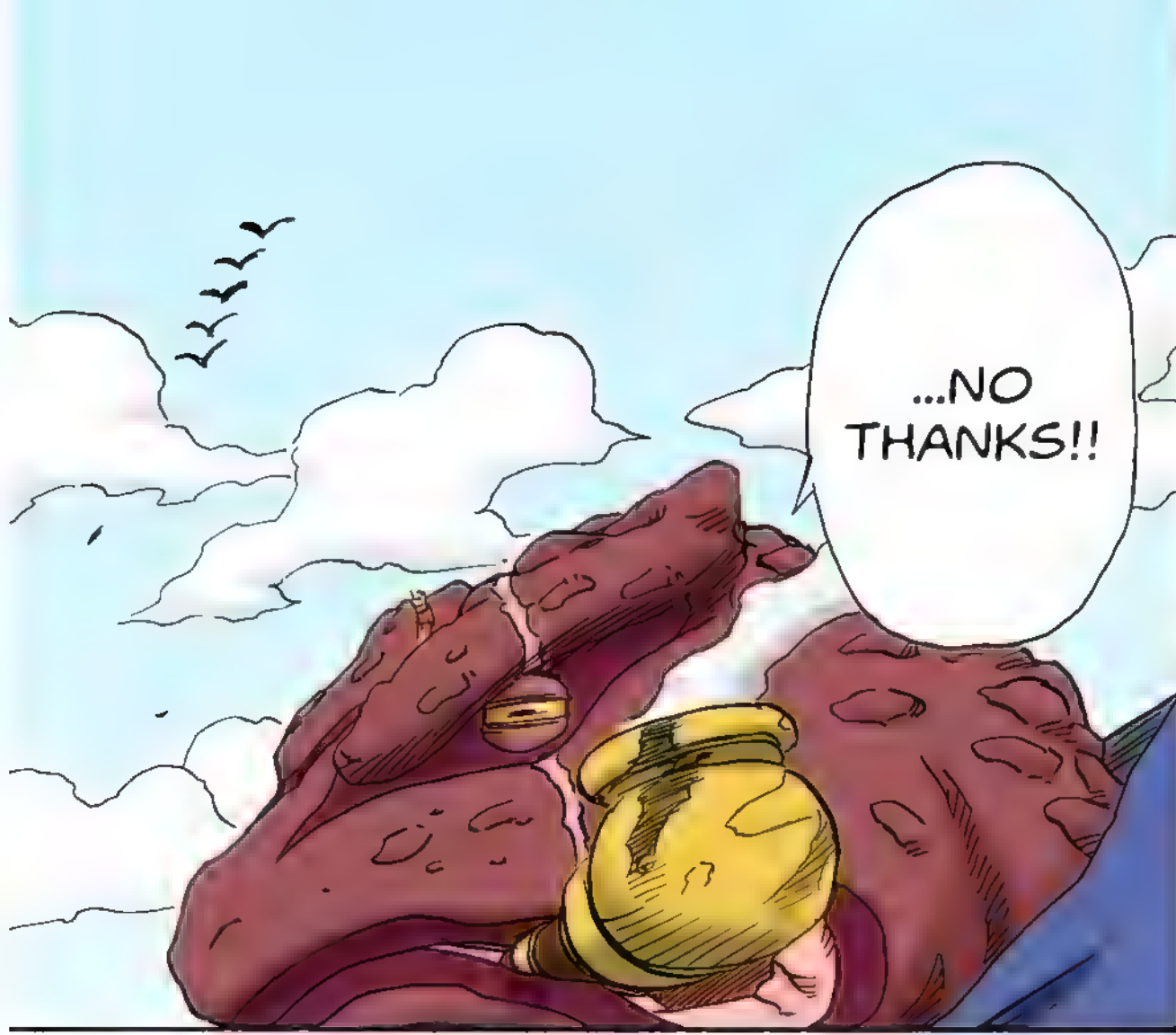




SABAKU-SÔSÔ!
IMPLoding
SAND
FUNERAL!

KUCHIYOSE
NO JUTSU!
THE ART OF
SUMMONING!!







I CAN'T DRINK!!

YOU GOT TO BE KIDDING! I'M STILL A KID!



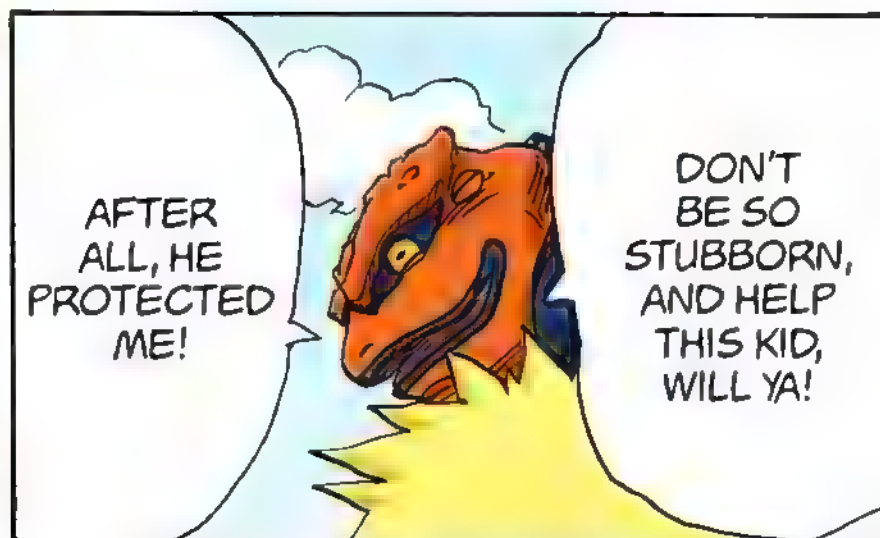
PA!!

PA?!

EH?!



!



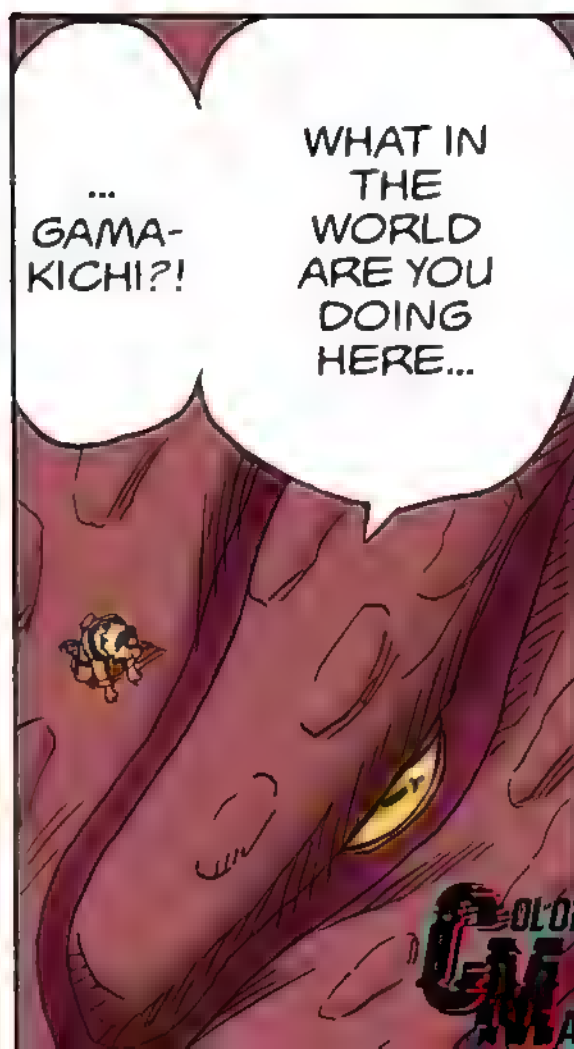
AFTER ALL, HE PROTECTED ME!

DON'T BE SO STUBBORN, AND HELP THIS KID, WILL YA!



BUT HIM OVER THERE, HE TRIED TO BULLY ME!

I HAD NOTHING BETTER TO DO, SO I CAME OUT TO HAVE SOME FUN.



... GAMA-KICHI?!

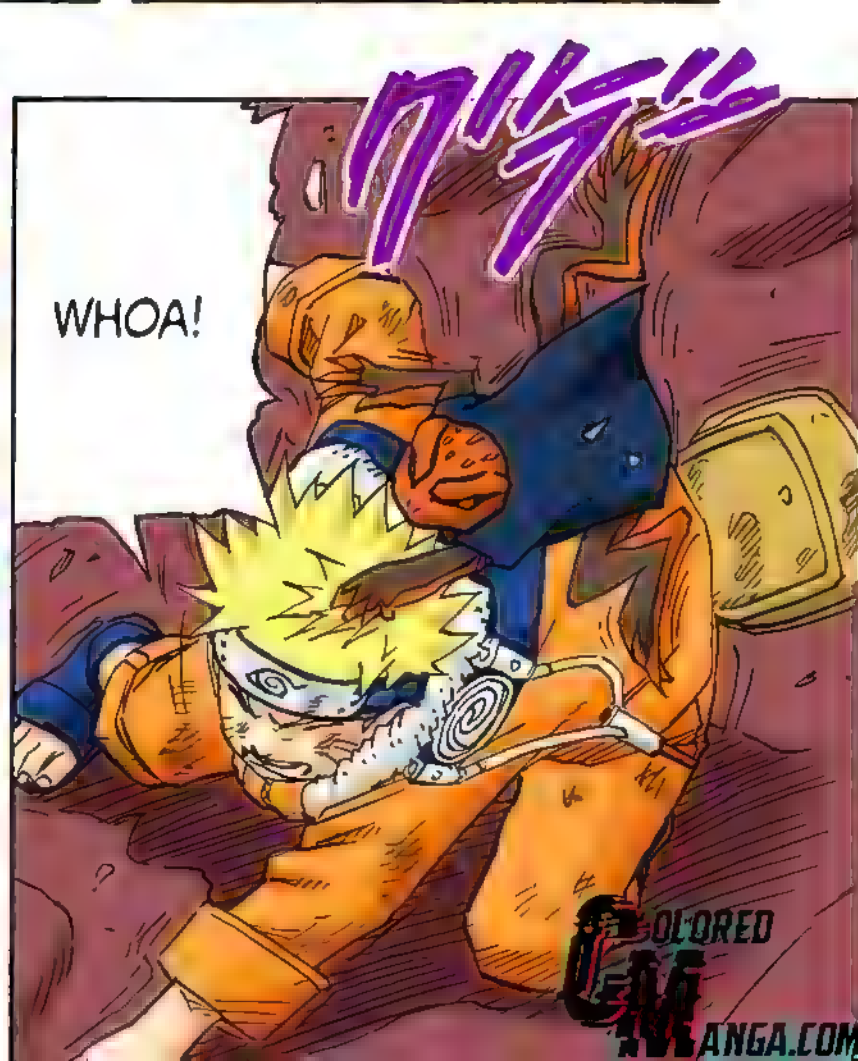
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING HERE...

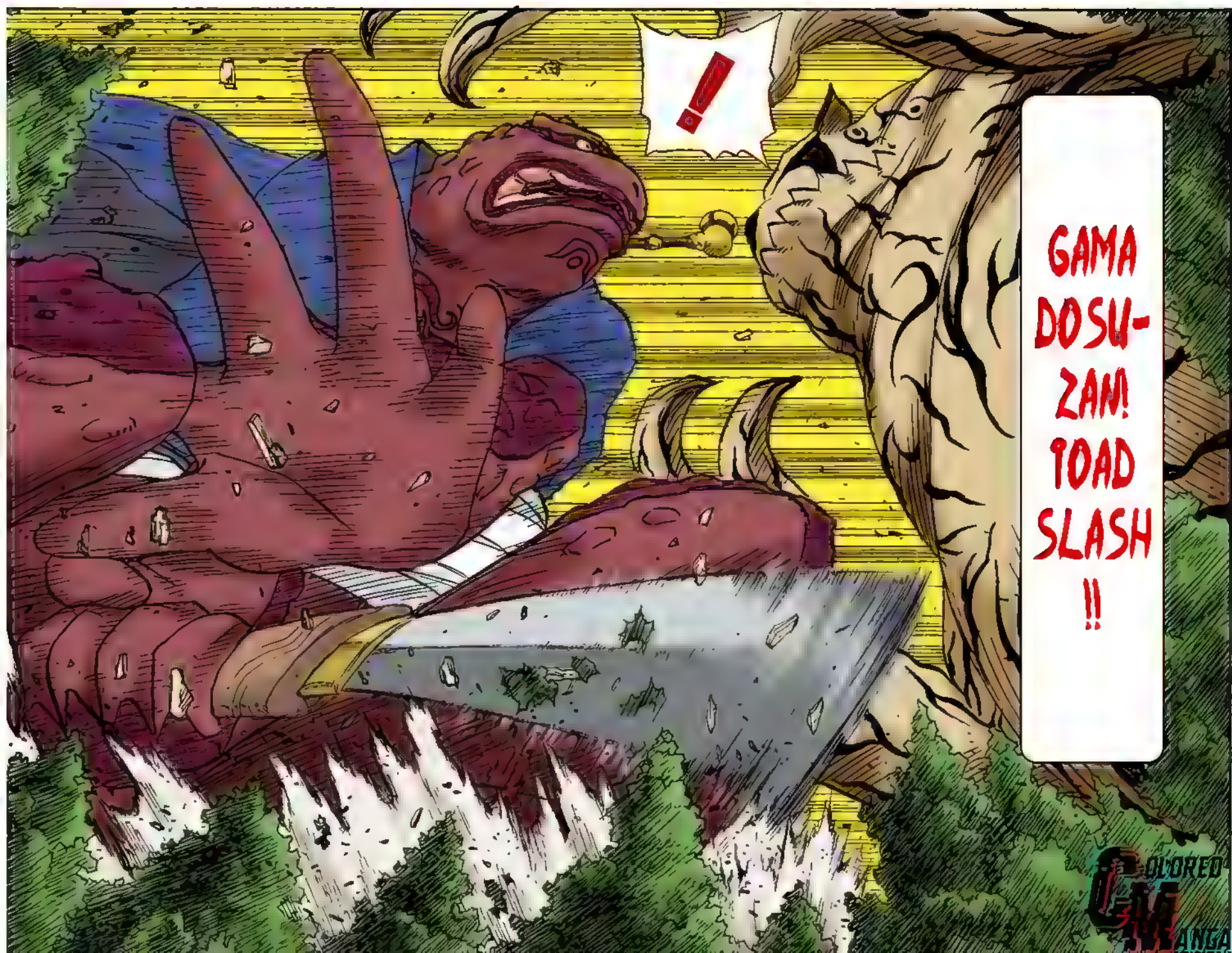
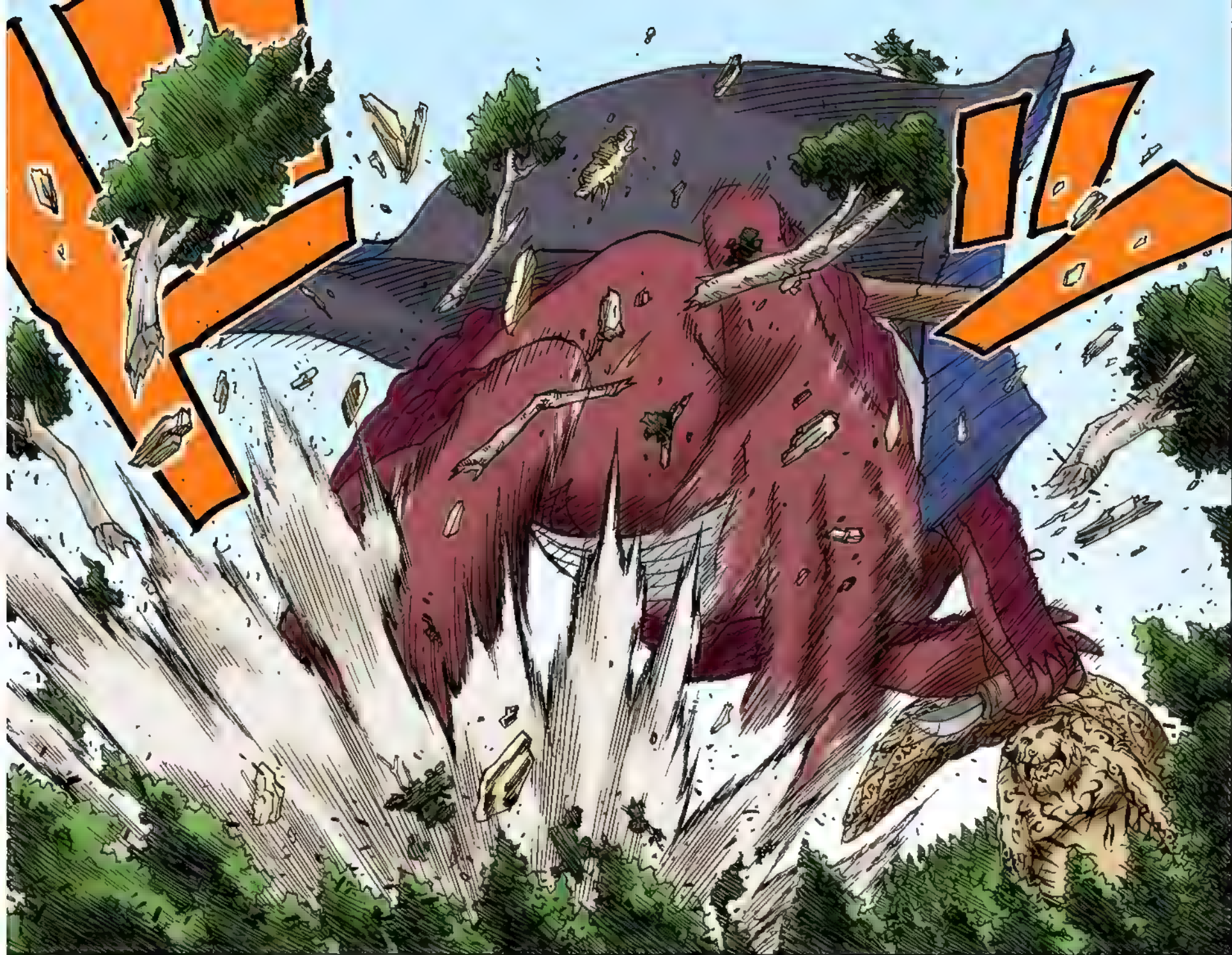


ナンバー

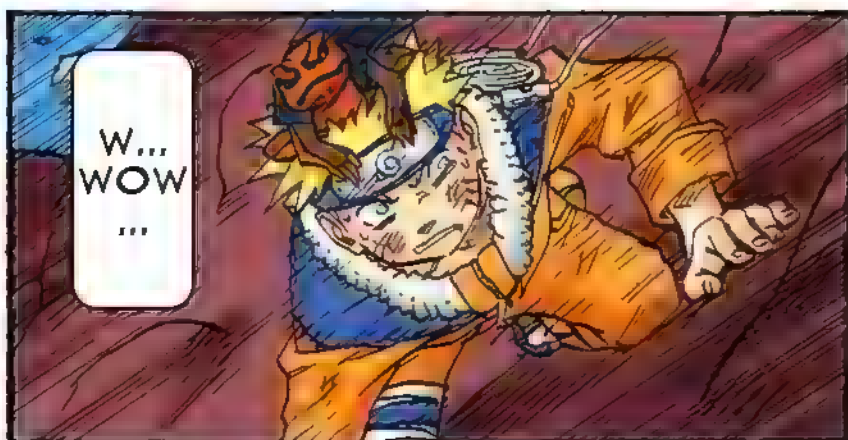
135 :







GAMA
DOSU-
ZAN!
TOAD
SLASH
!!

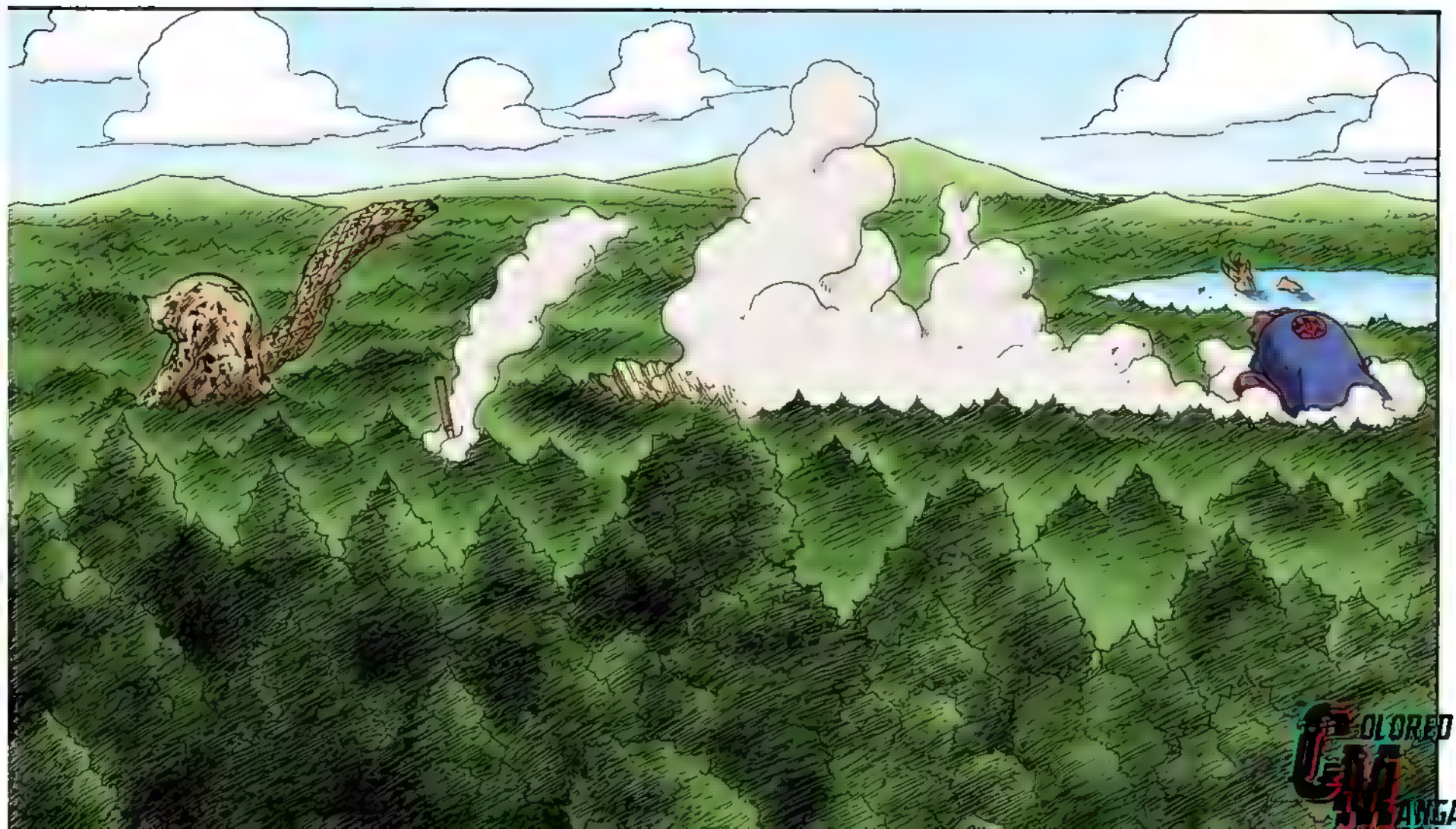
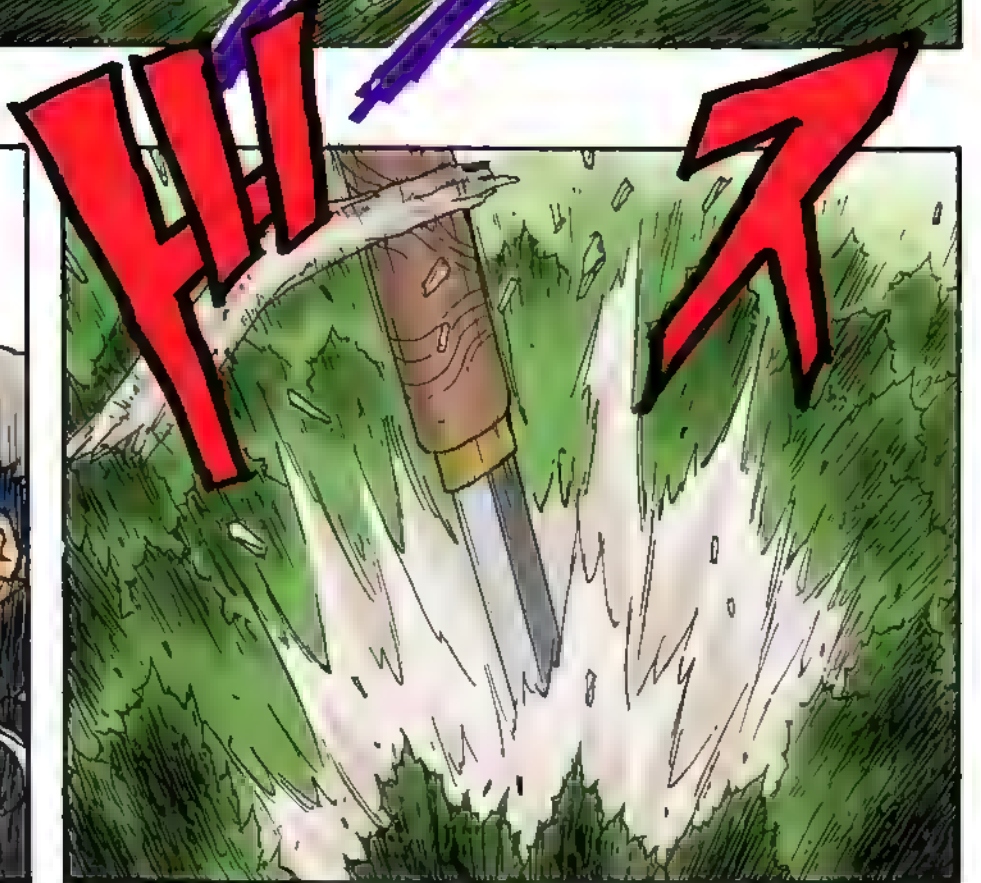
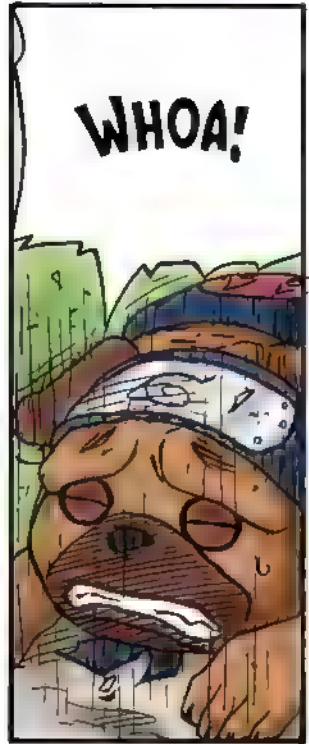


W...
WOW
...



WHAT A
TOUGH
FELLOW...
HE'S SO
SOLID I
BARELY
MANAGED TO
PULL OUT THE
SLASH!





IF I DON'T
GET RID
OF HIM
QUICKLY,
THE
WHOLE
LAND-
SCAPE'S
GOING TO
CHANGE...



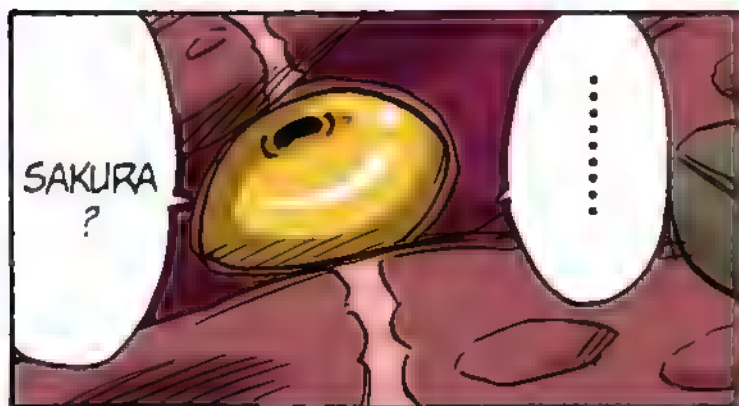
SAKURA'S OVER IN
THAT DIRECTION,
SO WE CAN'T
GO THAT WAY!!
CAN YOU LURE HIM
OVER HERE?!!

HEY,
CHIEF!



OTHERWISE,
WE CAN'T
SAVE
SAKURA!

WE'VE
GOT TO
TAKE HIM
DOWN!

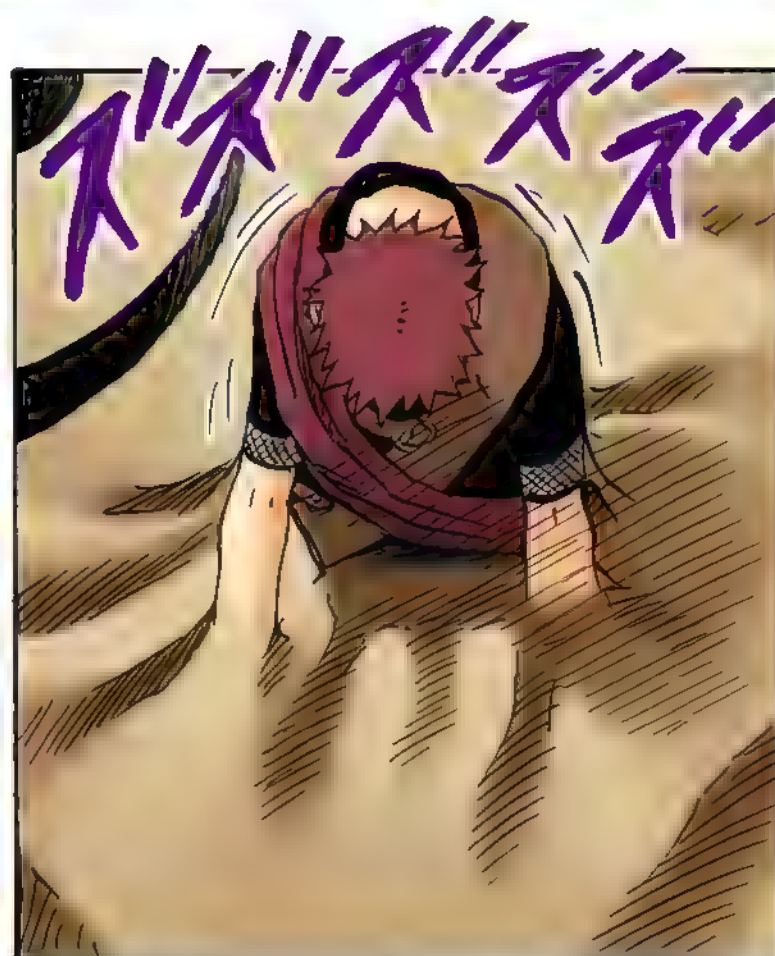
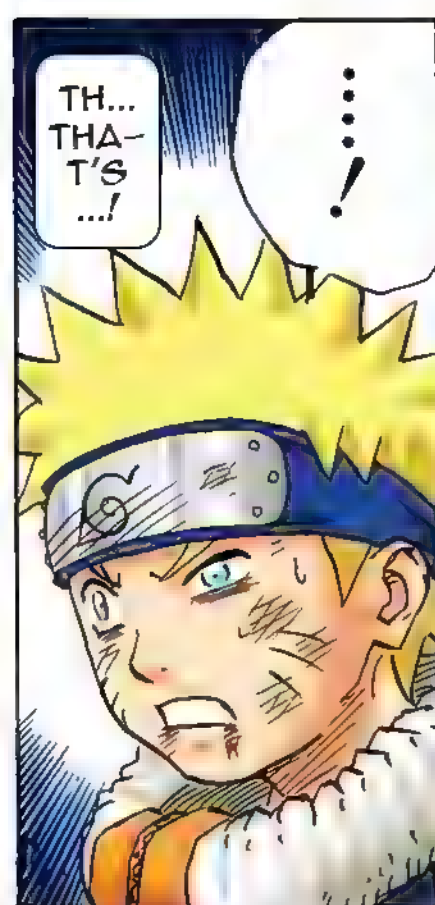
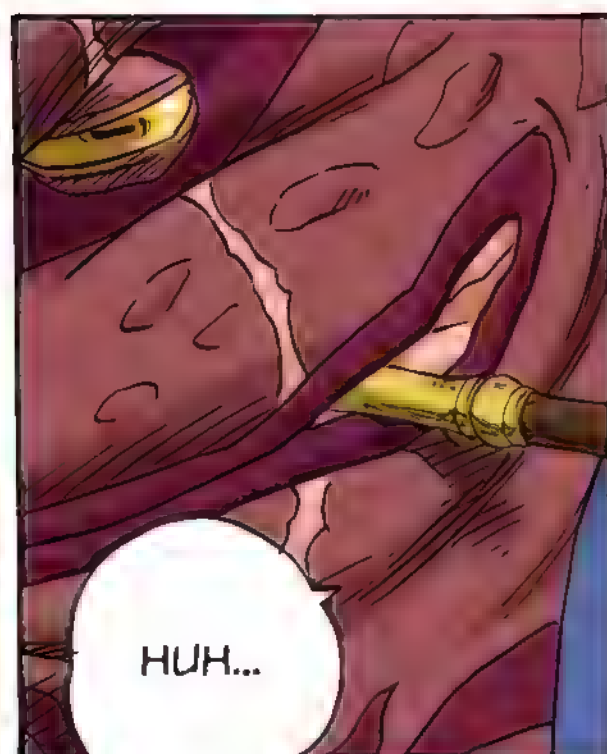


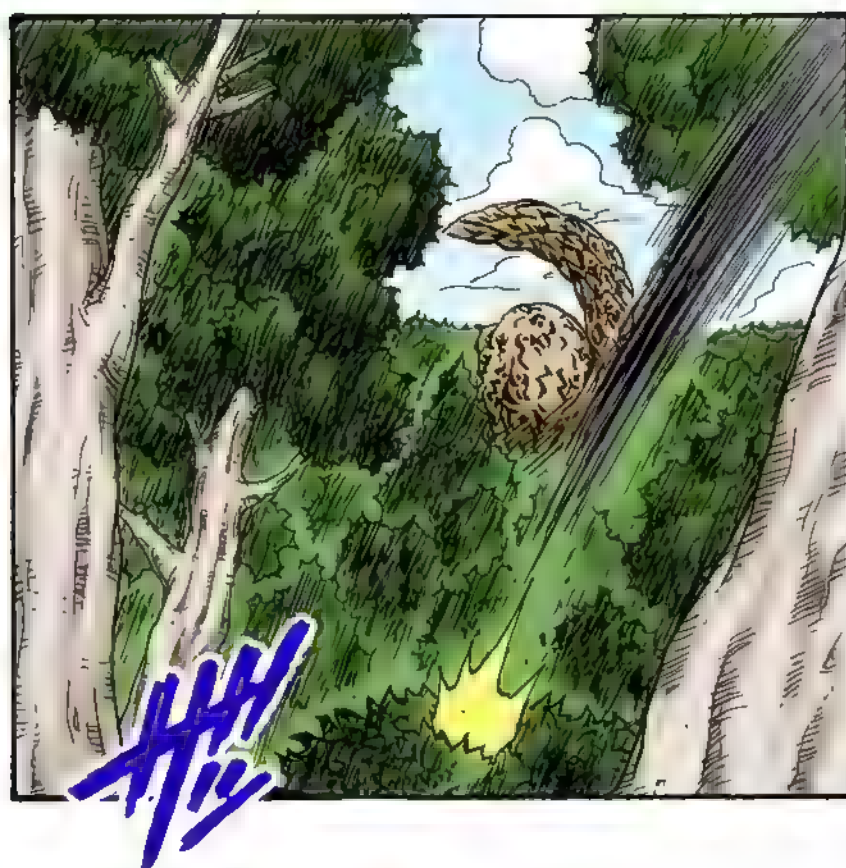
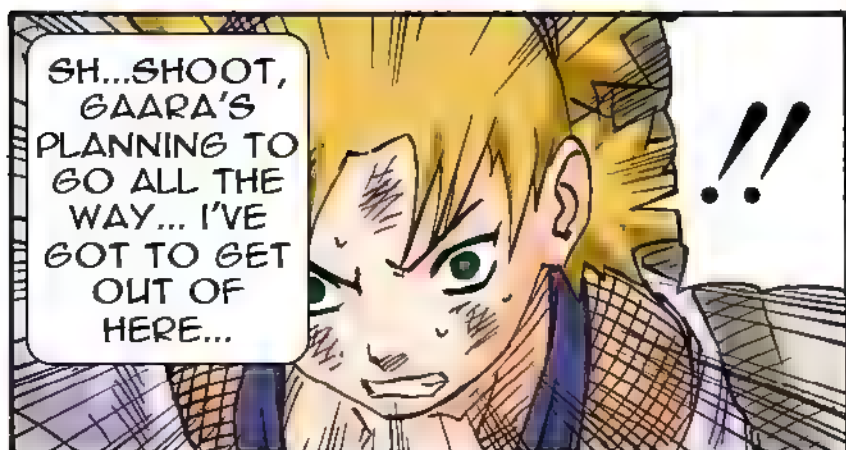
SAKURA
?



...PA.

SHE'S
HIS
GIRL...

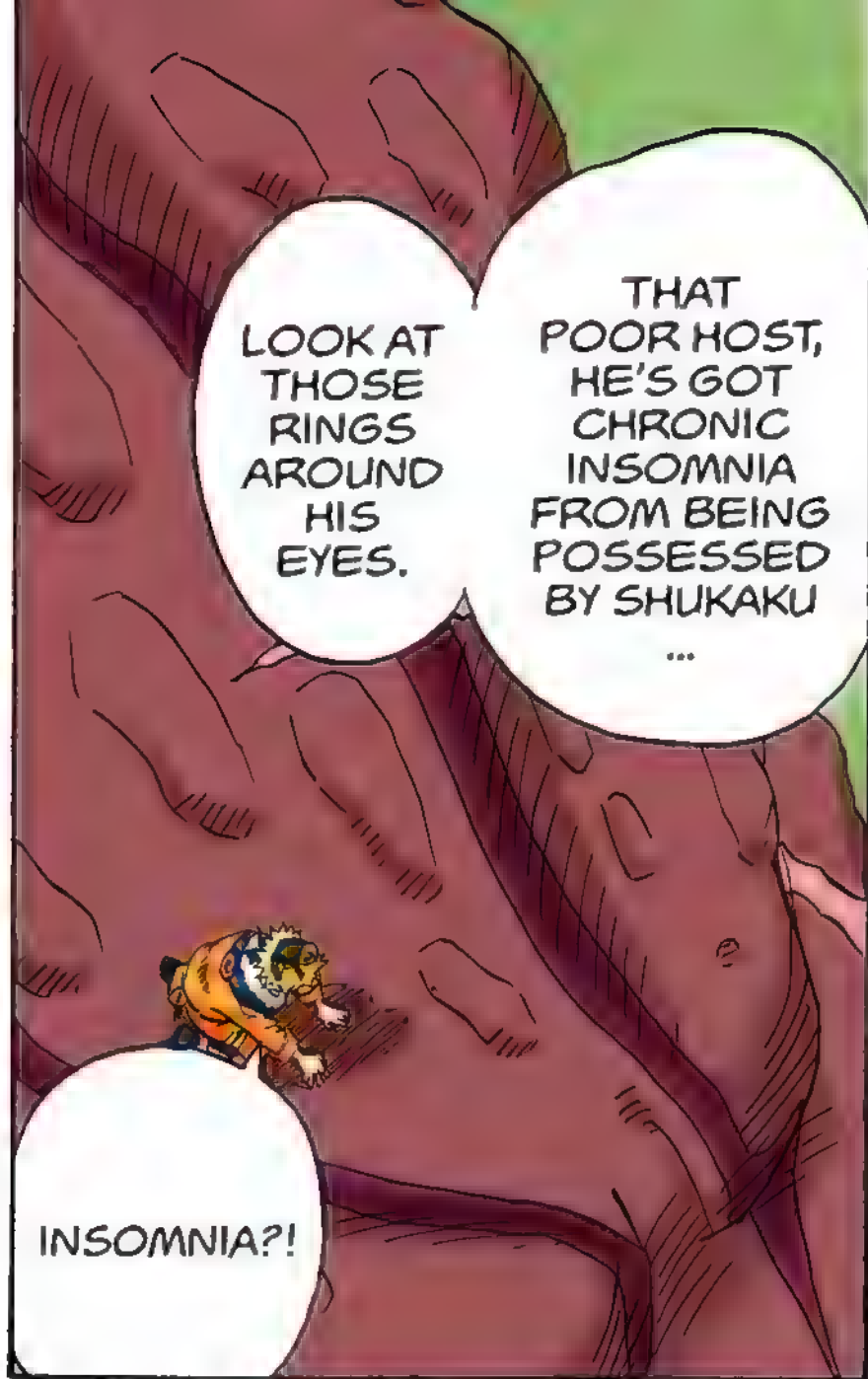






...OUT
OF
FEAR!

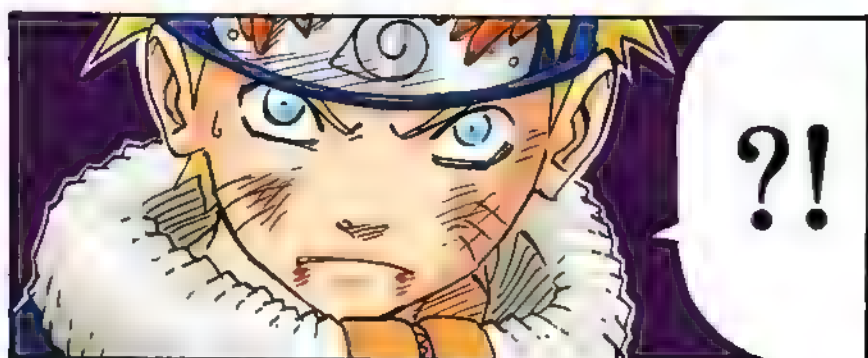
THOSE WHO
BECOME
POSSESSED
BY THE DEMON
SHUKAKU STOP
BEING ABLE TO
TRULY SLEEP
SOUNDLY...



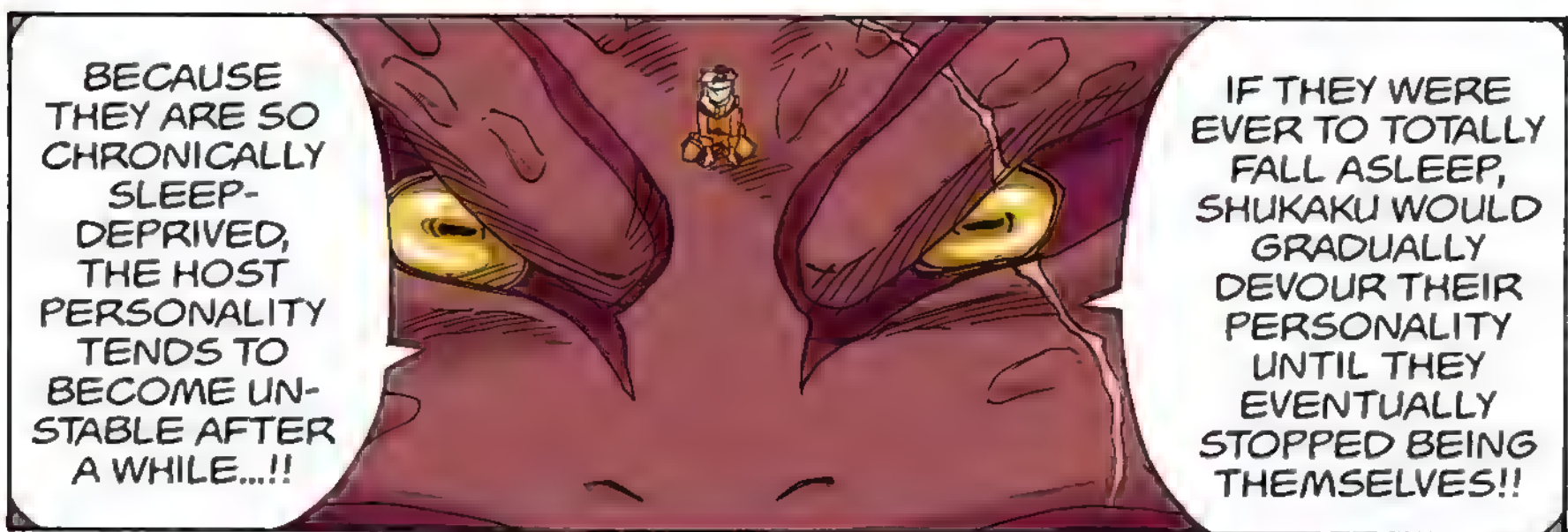
LOOK AT
THOSE
RINGS
AROUND
HIS
EYES.

THAT
POOR HOST,
HE'S GOT
CHRONIC
INSOMNIA
FROM BEING
POSSESSED
BY SHUKAKU
...

INSOMNIA?!



?!



BECAUSE
THEY ARE SO
CHRONICALLY
SLEEP-
DEPRIVED,
THE HOST
PERSONALITY
TENDS TO
BECOME UN-
STABLE AFTER
A WHILE...!!

IF THEY WERE
EVER TO TOTALLY
FALL ASLEEP,
SHUKAKU WOULD
GRADUALLY
DEVOUR THEIR
PERSONALITY
UNTIL THEY
EVENTUALLY
STOPPED BEING
THEMSELVES!!

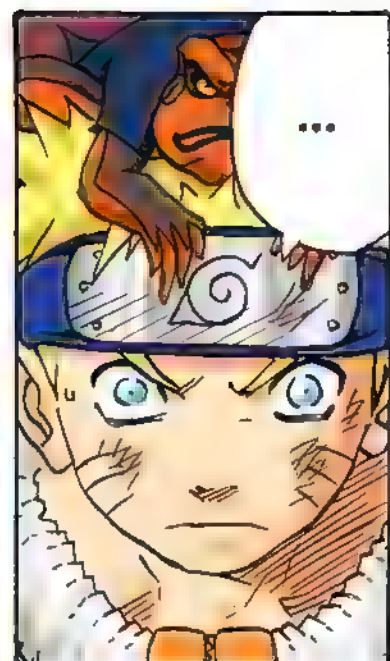


IF
THE HOST
VOLUNTARILY
ENTERS
SLEEP...

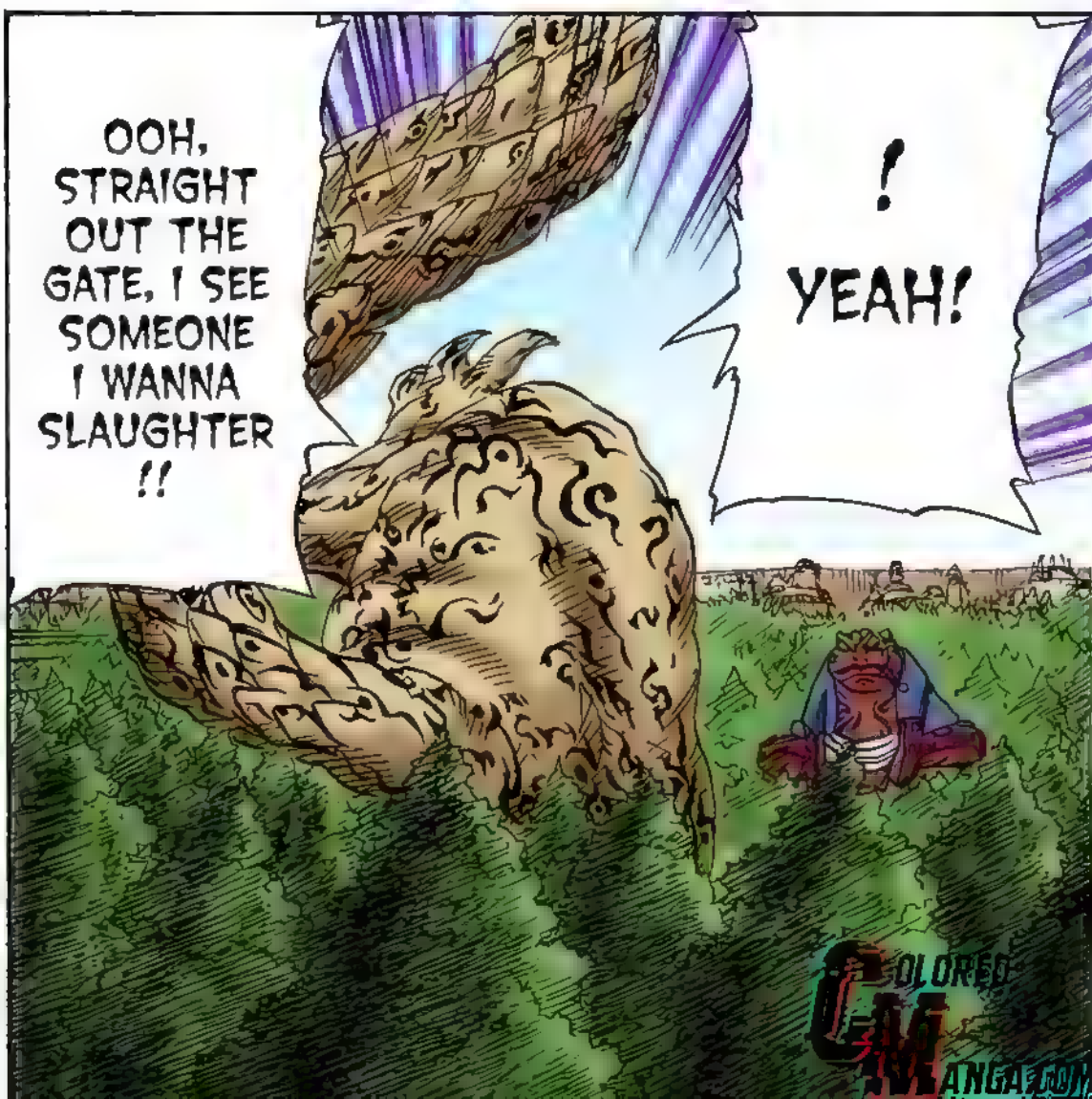
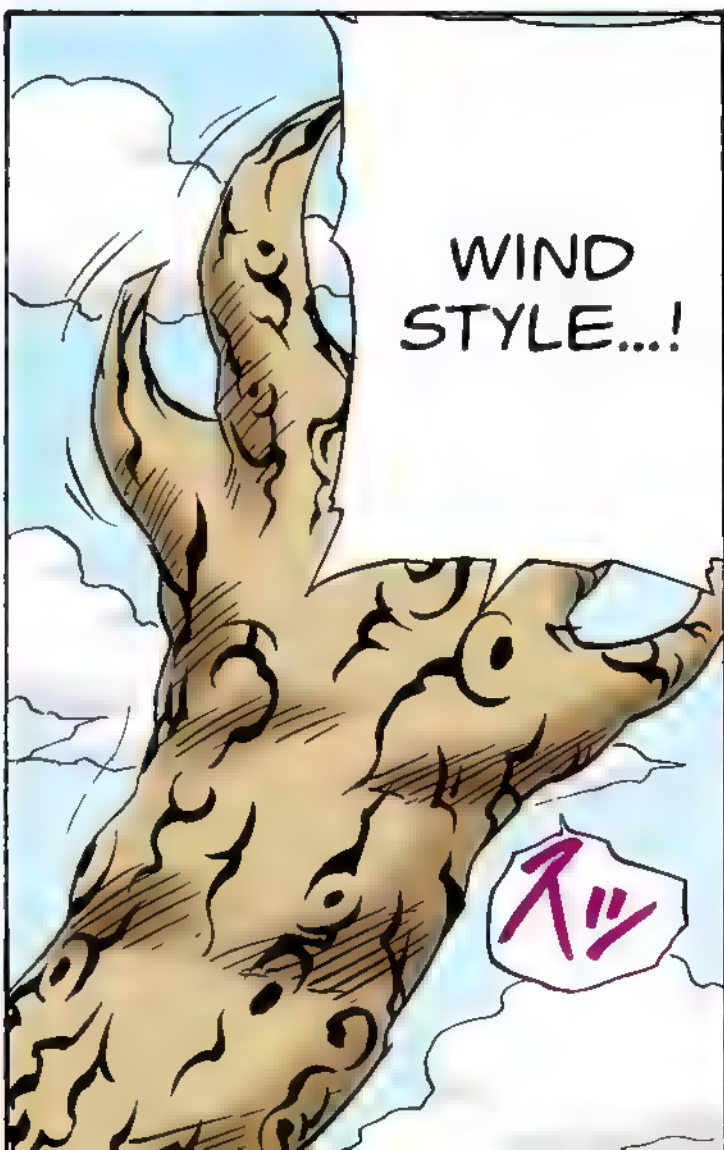
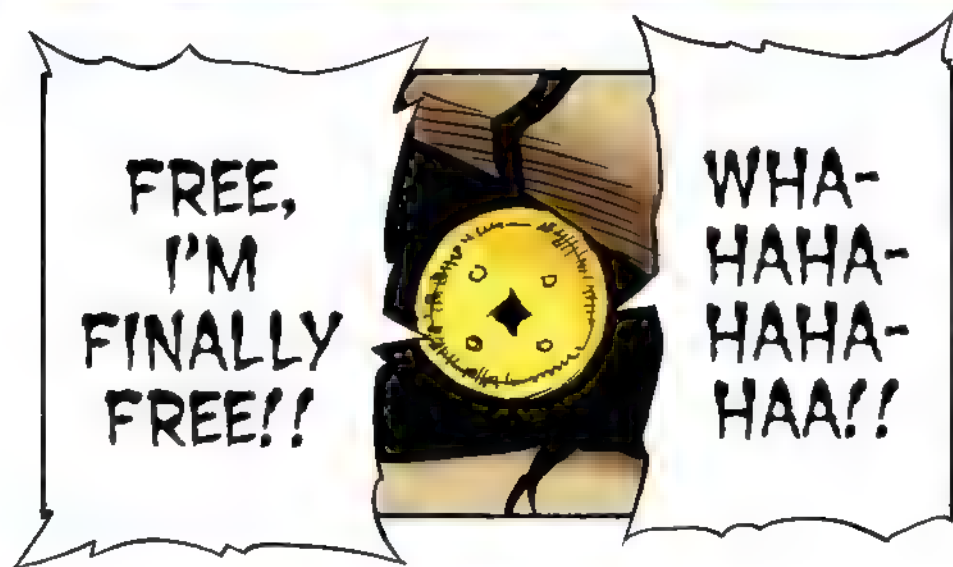
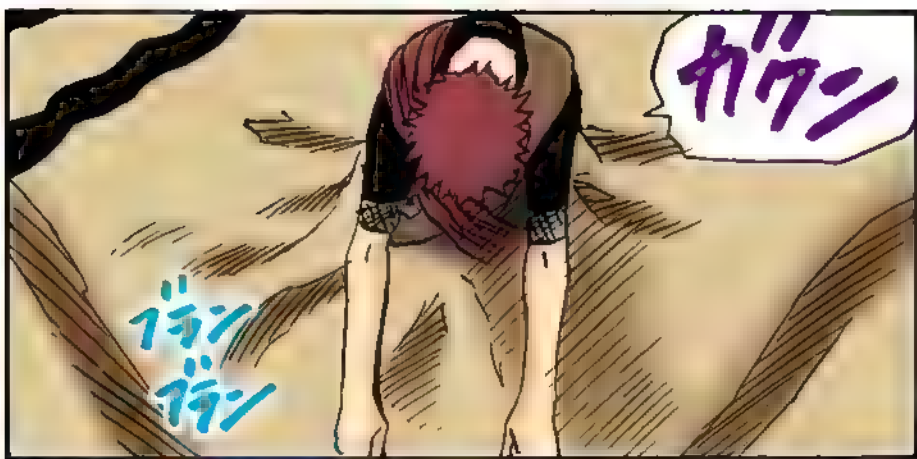
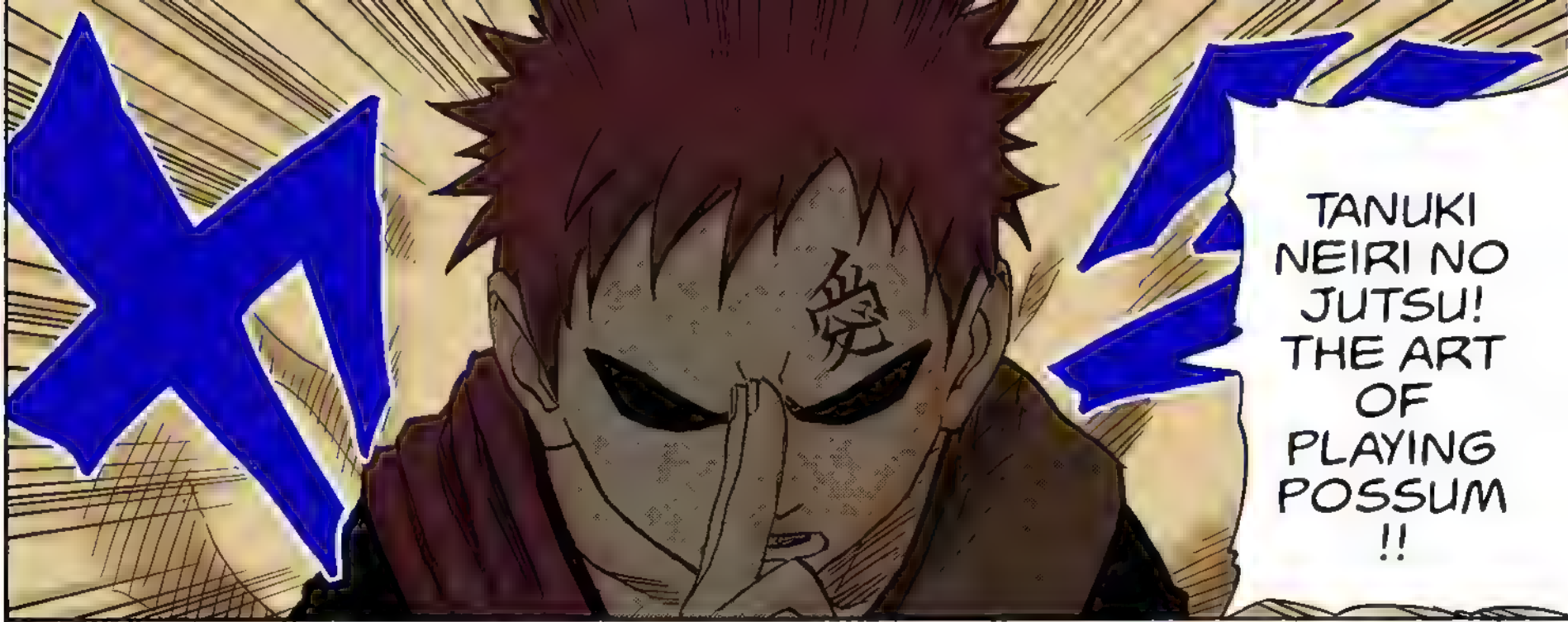


...
SHUKAKU'S
TRUE
STRENGTH
IS SUP-
PRESSED...
BUT...

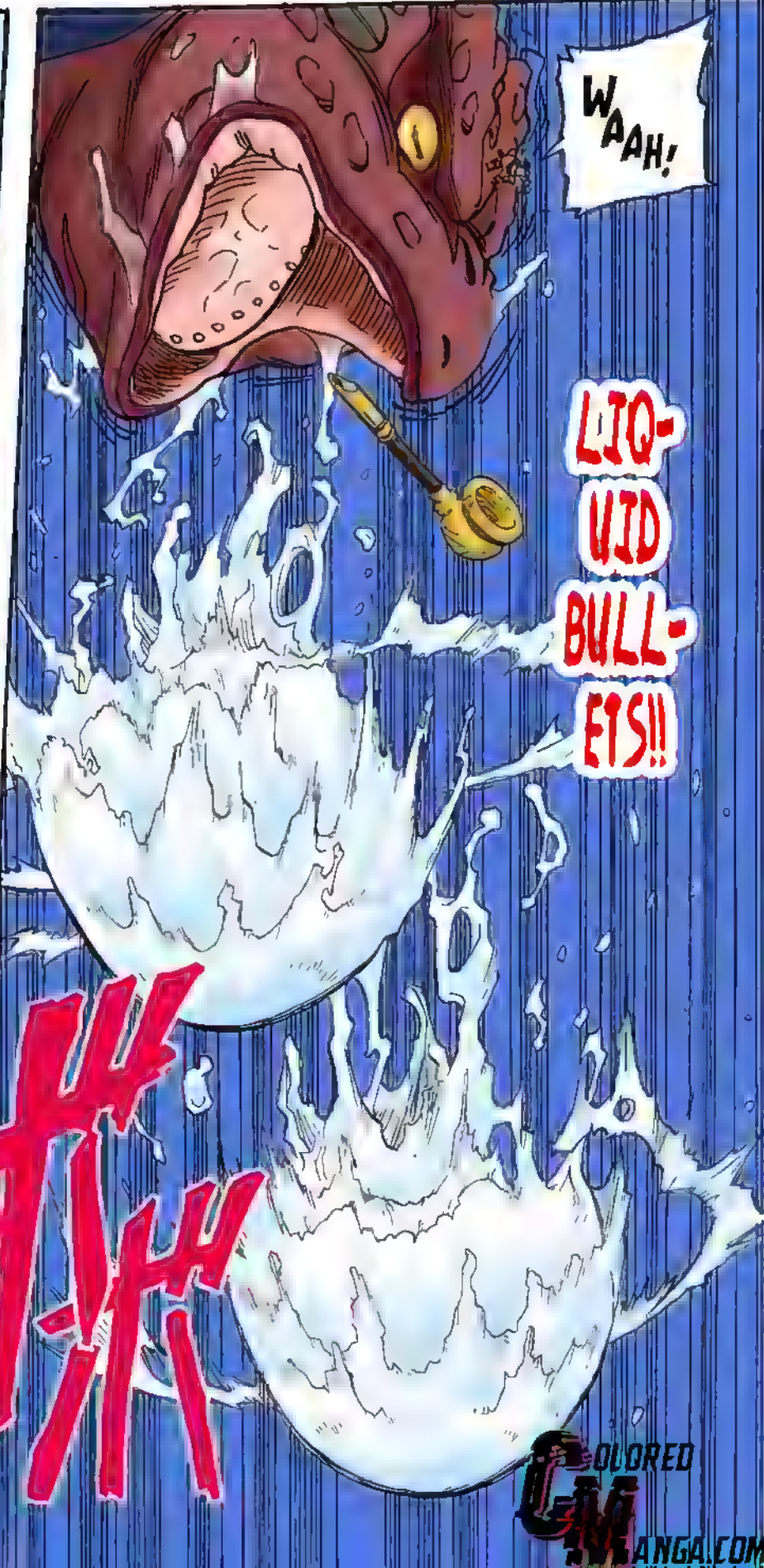
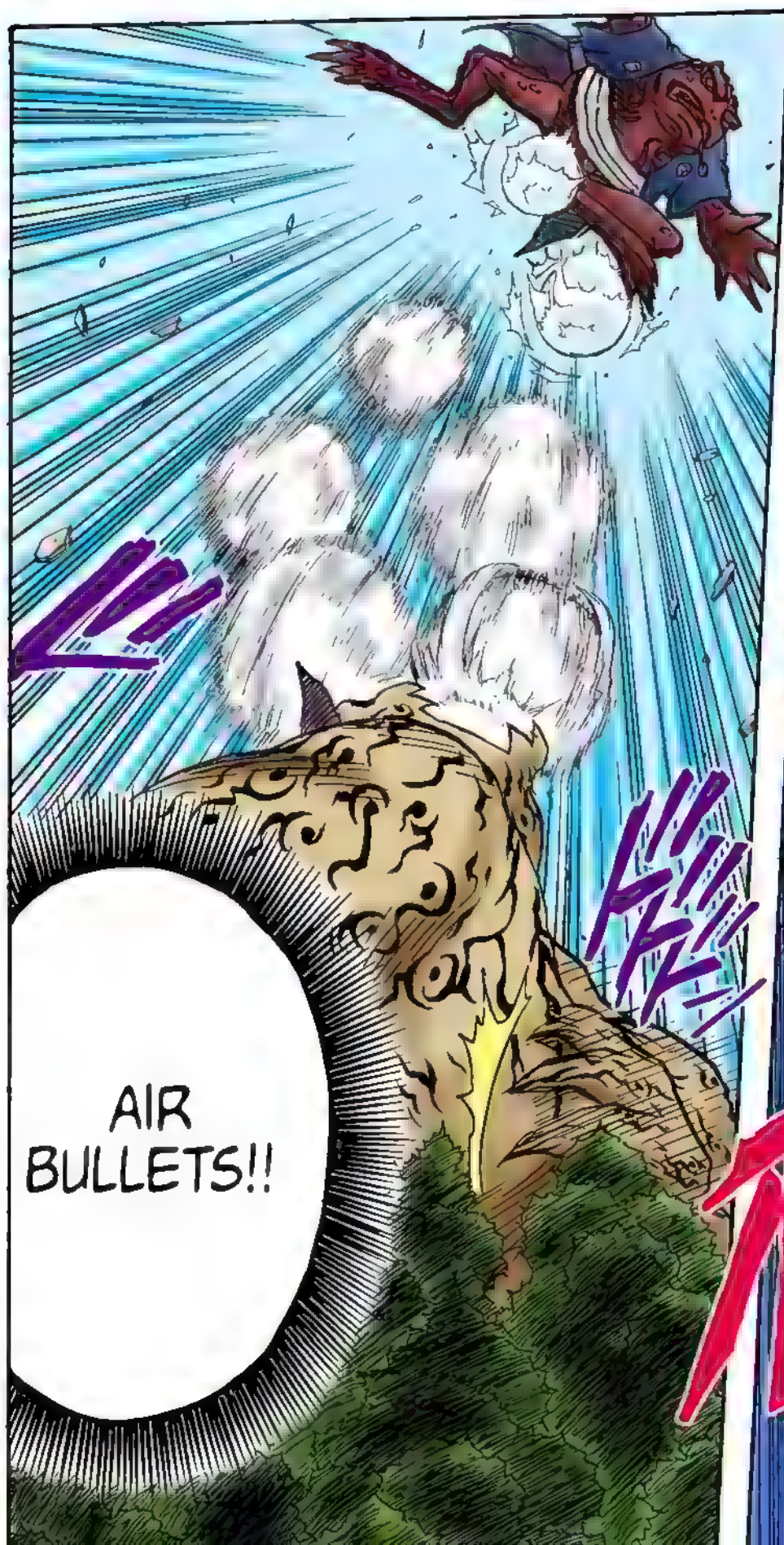
NORMALLY...
WHILE THE
HOST IS
AWAKE...

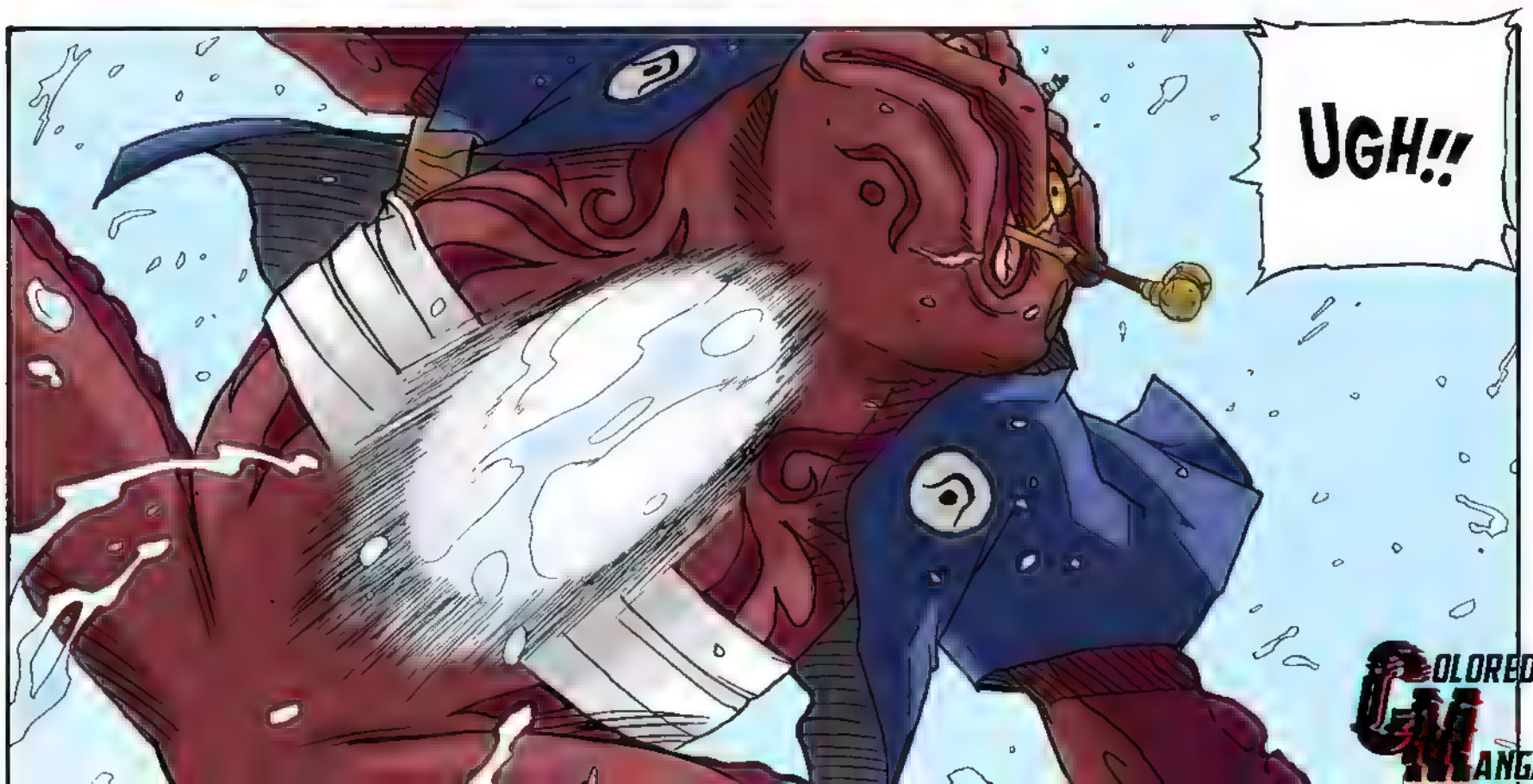
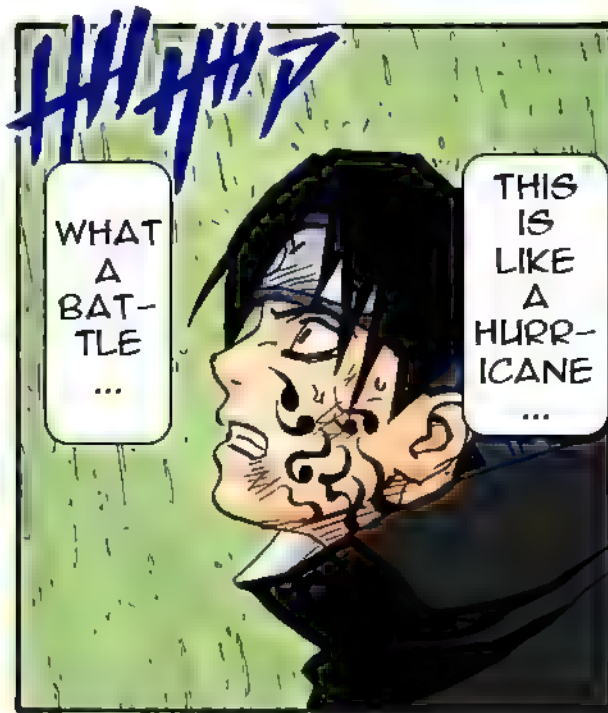


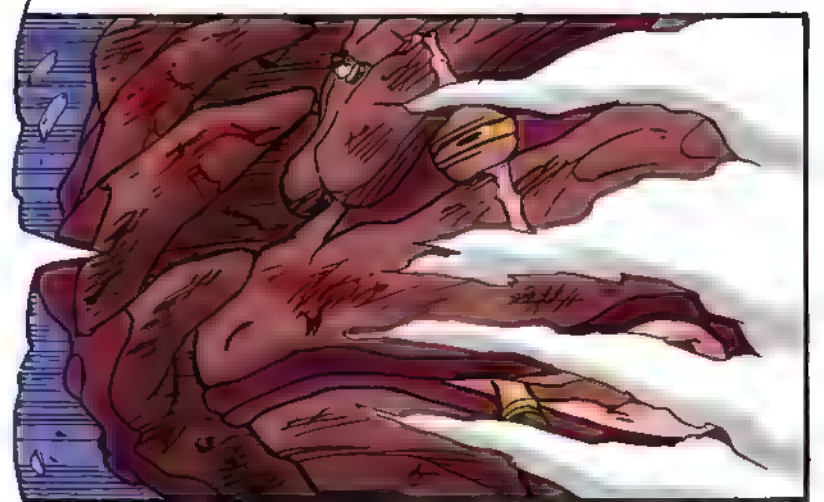
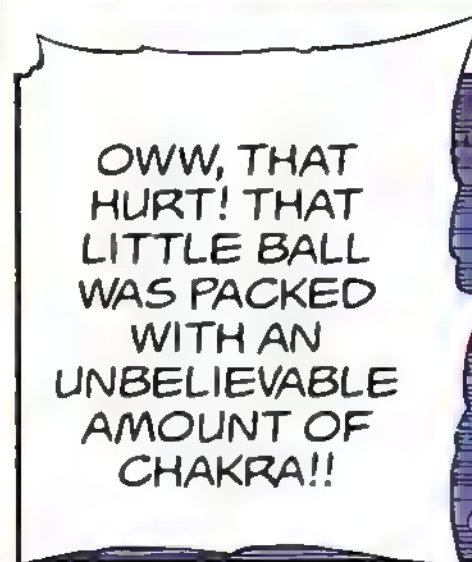
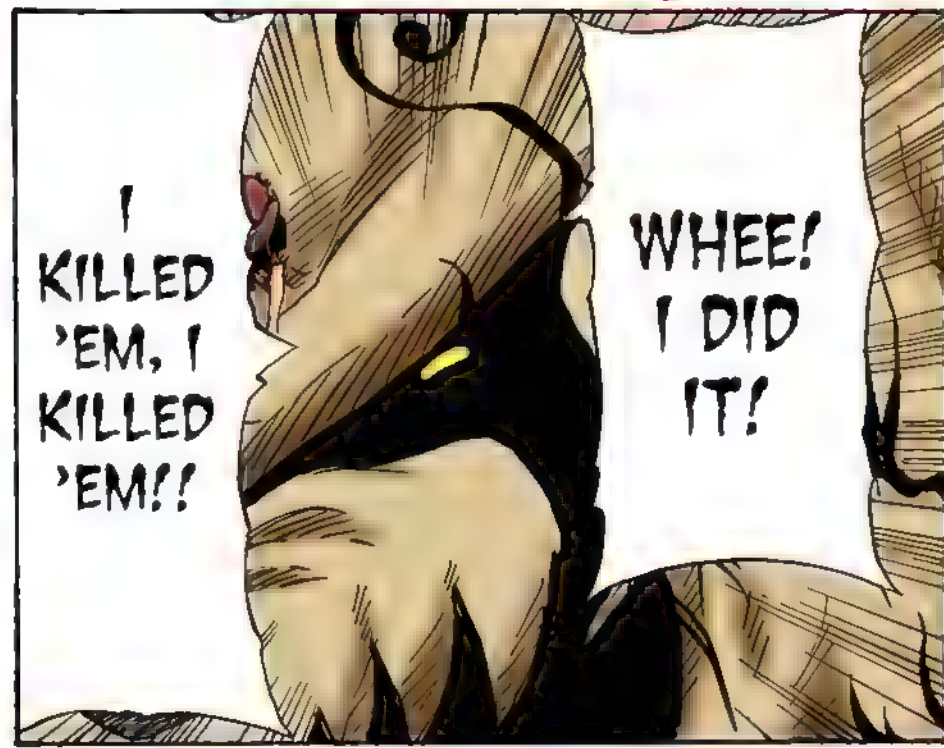
...

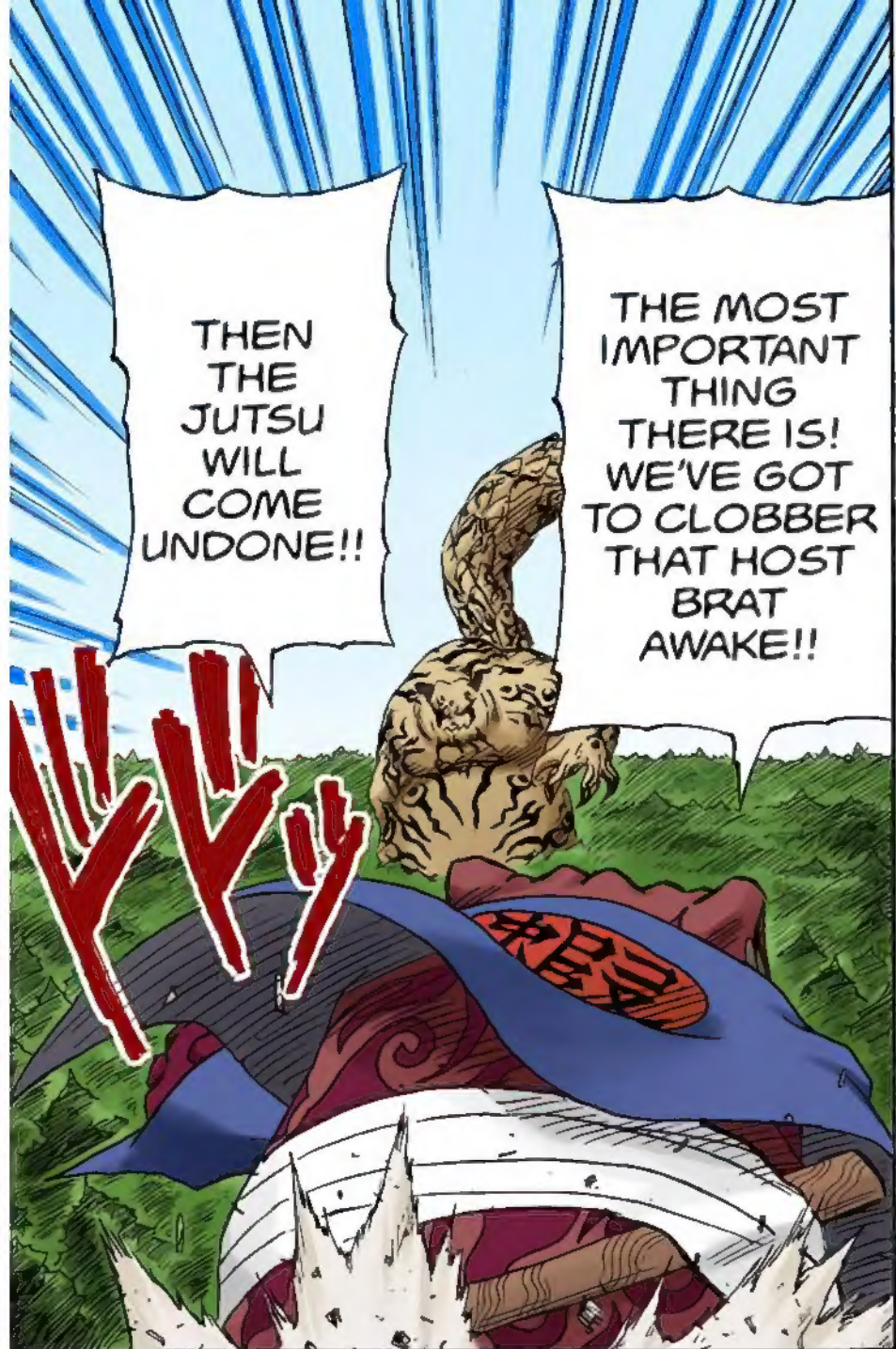






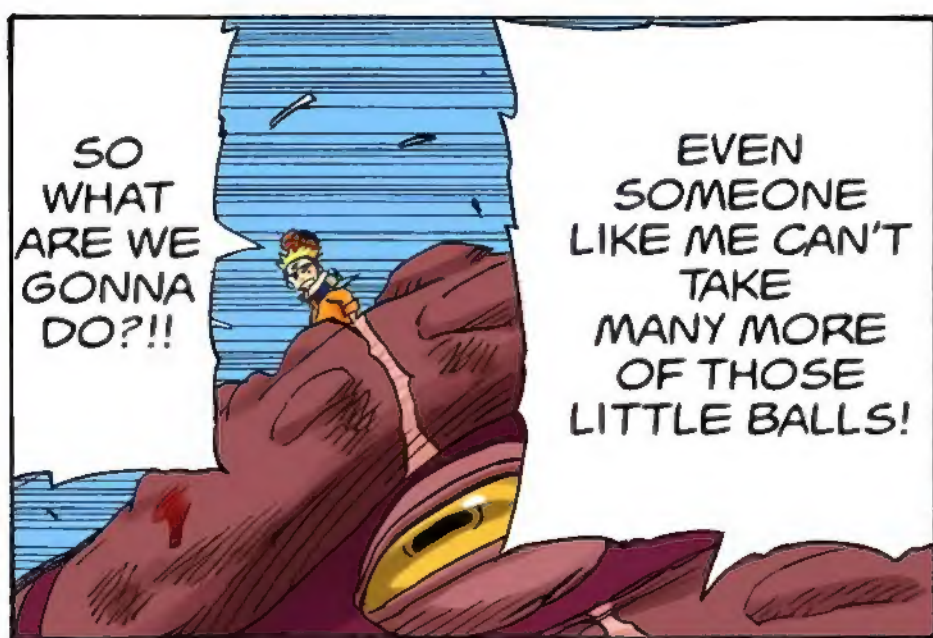






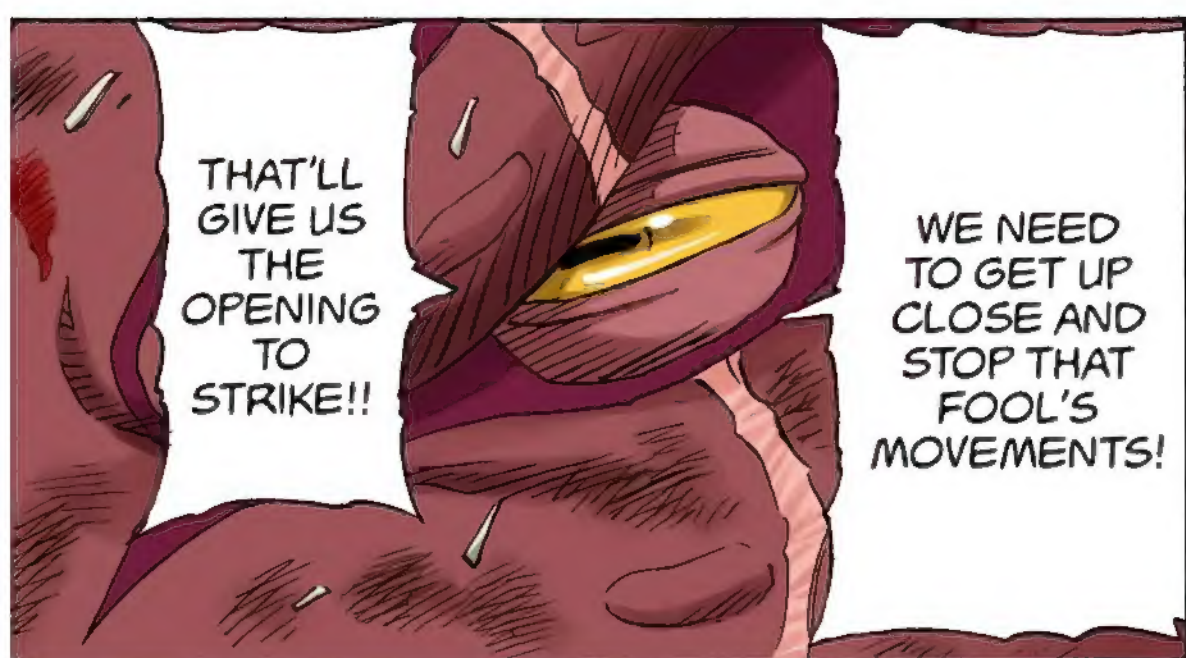
THEN
THE
JUTSU
WILL
COME
UNDONE!!

THE MOST
IMPORTANT
THING
THERE IS!
WE'VE GOT
TO CLOBBER
THAT HOST
BRAT
AWAKE!!



SO
WHAT
ARE WE
GONNA
DO?!!

EVEN
SOMEONE
LIKE ME CAN'T
TAKE
MANY MORE
OF THOSE
LITTLE BALLS!

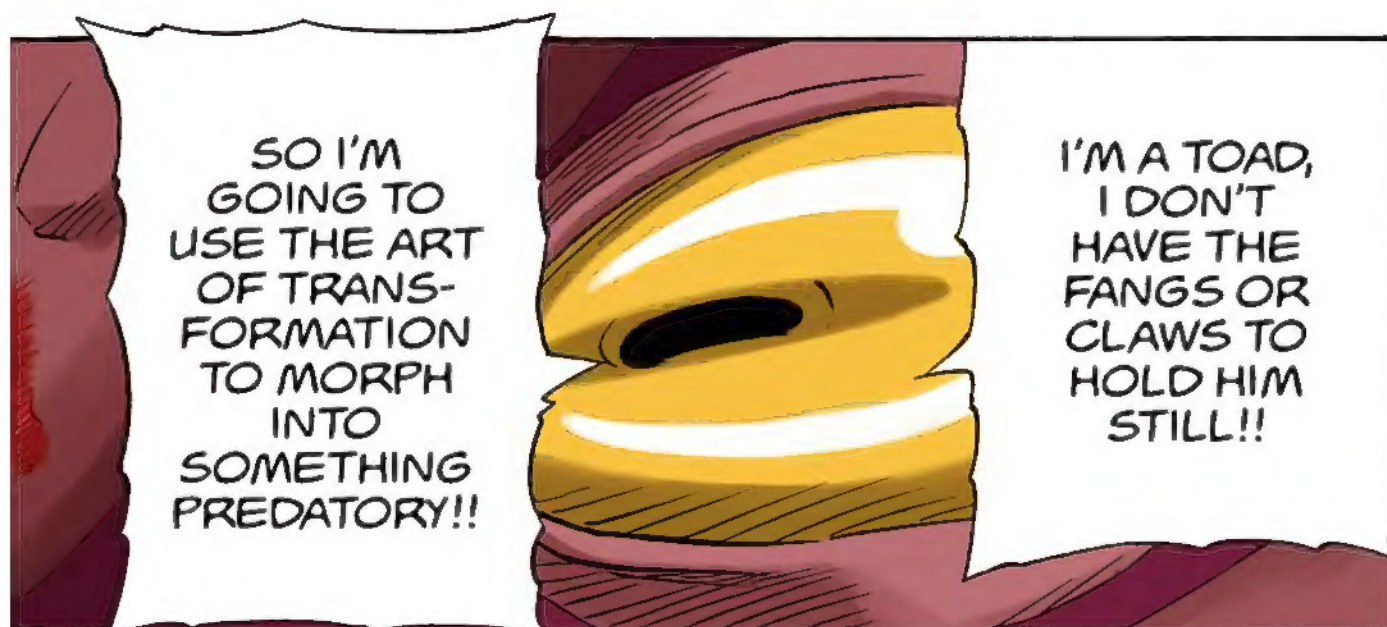


THAT'LL
GIVE US
THE
OPENING
TO
STRIKE!!

WE NEED
TO GET UP
CLOSE AND
STOP THAT
FOOL'S
MOVEMENTS!

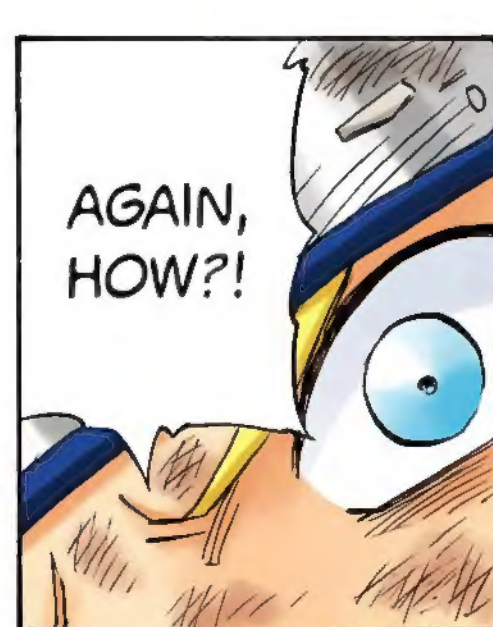


**H
O
W
?!**



SO I'M
GOING TO
USE THE ART
OF TRANS-
FORMATION
TO MORPH
INTO
SOMETHING
PREDATORY!!

I'M A TOAD,
I DON'T
HAVE THE
FANGS OR
CLAWS TO
HOLD HIM
STILL!!



AGAIN,
HOW?!



HERE
WE
GO!!

WAIT!
OH,
NO!



UHH!
UHH!

EH?!!
SOME-
THING
WITH
FANGS
AND
CLAWS...



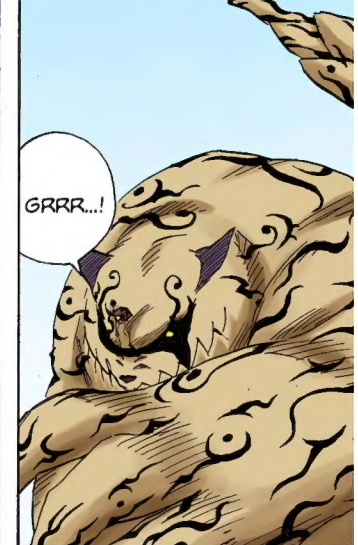
'CUZ YOU USED
UP THE LAST OF
YOUR CHAKRA
TO SUMMON
ME, RIGHT?!!



I NEED YOU
TO WEAVE
THE SIGNS
FOR ME...
AND I'LL
LEND YOU MY
CHAKRA!!

TRANSFOR-
MATION
ISN'T MY
STRONG
SUIT!

IT'LL BE A
COMBO
TRANSFOR-
MATION!!



GRRR...!



